

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Sackcloth... David Hewson reveals why BBC people are wringing their hands. And ashes Bernard Levin might not be addicted to tobacco, but he would defend to the death people's right to smoke.



Through a glass... The Books Page features a beery history and the biography of the Catholic priest who was the model for Dorian Gray. Darkly The subject of the Times Profile is Roald Dahl, writer of charming children's fantasies and ghoulish tales for grown-ups.

Pension rise plan may cost £350m

The Treasury is planning to ask about 2.5 million teachers, council and health service employees to increase their pension contributions by 2 per cent of their salary. It is estimated that it would cost employees up to £350m. Page 2

Early holiday for Commons

The Government took the unusual step of announcing months in advance that the Commons will rise for Easter in the week ending April 13, Easter is late next year.

Spain unhappy

Madrid's growing exasperation with Paris over both Basque refugees, and EEC entry provided a difficult backdrop to talks between President Mitterrand and Señor Gonzalez Page 8

NGA action

Lawyers representing the National Graphical Association and High Court sequestrators have met in an attempt to resolve a dispute over the "export" of union funds to Dublin



£7.6m arts aid

A £7.6m package to aid the Royal Shakespeare Company, the Royal Opera House and several regional opera companies has been announced Page 2

Moors killer ill

Ian Brady, serving a life sentence in Gartree prison, Leicestershire, for the Moors murders, has been admitted to the prison hospital. His weight has dropped from 13st to 7st 12lb

Thatcher wish

Mrs Thatcher would choose to be Mother Teresa of Calcutta if there was a chance to be anyone else, she revealed on television

Leader page 13 Letters: On local government, from Mr G. Alderman and others; Turkey, from Mrs D. Spearman, and Dr D. Seddon. Leading articles: Rate Bill; PLO; Jamaican election. Features, pages 10-12. A trade union call for a quid pro quo: the Japanese voters' blow to closer links with the West, who's soft on the Provos now? Spectrum: The merchandising of Flora Thompson. Wednesday Page: dealing with obscene phone calls; Joanna, Lumley's Diary. Obituary, page 14 Bill Brandt, Grigori Alexandrov

Table with 3 columns: Page number, Section, Page number. Includes: Home 2, 3, 5; Overseas 5, 6, 8; Appts 14, 18; Arts 9; Business 15-18; Court 14; Crossword 24; Diary 12; Law Report 8; Parliament 4; Property 21; Sale Room 14; Science 19; Sport 18-20; TV & Radio 23; Theatres, etc 21; Universities 24; Weather 19; Wills 14

Rate-capping Bill faces strongest test in the Lords

By Julian Hovil and Hugh Clayton

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, has decided that he would have to resign if Parliament fails to enact the Rates Bill published yesterday. But in private, as in public, he has expressed no doubt that the Bill, which will limit the power of local authorities to raise rates, will become law without major changes. His talk of resigning is a mark of this apparent confidence.

At the same time, there have been new signs that Mr Jenkin is concerned at the strength of opposition being assembled against the Bill in the House of Lords. In discussions with peers he has suggested that the Bill raises constitutional questions for them, since its provisions are concerned with taxation and expenditure and since it was promised in a manifesto endorsed by the electorate. The second point is one on which members of the unelected House are sensitive. But the first carries an implied threat which Conservative peers yesterday did not like, and which they consider empty. Under the Parliament Act, 1911, the House of Lords has no power to amend a money Bill, dealing with such matters as taxation and money supply. But the definition of a money Bill under the Act excludes, according to Erskine May's Parliamentary Practice, "taxation, money or loan raised by local authorities for local purposes". There is no doubt that the Bill will be strongly resisted by

many Conservative, as well as Opposition and cross-bench peers, who will be within their constitutional rights. The Bill, which received its first Commons reading yesterday, showed that the Government has rejected almost all criticism from its own supporters.

The plans will probably affect only Labour-led authorities. Prime candidates if such powers were available now would include the Greater London Council, several London boroughs and some Labour-led county councils.

But the Bill includes a reserve power to "cap" rates of all councils in England and Wales. Mr Jenkin, aware of strong Conservative opposition to the general proposal, insisted that its main purpose was to act as a deterrent - "to be used only if absolutely necessary."

Sir Terence Beckett, director-general of the Confederation of British Industry, described the Bill as "a much-needed restraint on the tiny minority of town and county halls which have for too long been spending beyond their means." The Bill attracted little support elsewhere, despite the presence of powers to exempt hundreds of councils, most led by Conservatives. Councils whose total spending is less than £10m a year will be exempt from selective "capping", and the Bill allows ministers to remove particular councils from the reserve general scheme. The Bill also entitles ministers to seek parliamentary powers to raise the £10m spending barrier below which councils cannot be earmarked for selective rate-capping. But the Association of District

porters about "capping" rates of councils which ignore government spending guidelines and issue soaring rate demands. The Bill will require ministers to name the first candidates for "capping" in the middle of 1984. It sets out two powers. One will enable ministers to list what they consider the most outrageous high-spenders in one year and fix legally-enforceable ceilings to their rates for the next. Mr Jenkin said yesterday that rate demands above govern-

ment ceilings from "capped councils" would not be legally enforceable.

Continued on back page, col 1

Probable timetable

1984 Spring: Rates Bill becomes law. Summer: Ministers reveal councils to be capped. December: Individual rate support grants for 1985 announced; councils to be capped learn rate ceilings. 1985 January: Capped councils expected to "appeal". March: Government seeks Commons approval of capping. April: Demands issued to ratepayers; capped councils must include signed guarantees that demands are within government ceilings - otherwise ratepayers can refuse to pay.

Police trace dealer who sold bomb car

By Stewart Tendler

The Austin 1300 GT used by Provisional IRA terrorists to bomb Harrods was bought for cash by a man answering an advertisement in a London local newspaper last month. The car was offered for sale for a few hundred pounds by a part-time dealer who often trades in old vehicles. The buyer turned up at the dealer's house at night after telephoning and left with the blue car, registration KFP 252K, following the pattern used by another Provisional IRA group operating in London some years ago. They too acquired a vehicle through an advertisement and then stored it.

Yesterday Commander William Huckleby, head of the anti-terrorist squad and in charge of the search for the Harrods bombers, said that an artist's impression of the car buyer may soon be issued. Mr Huckleby would not say how much had been paid for the car and would not identify the dealer because evidence might later be required in a court case.

Yesterday the last of the forensic evidence from the scene of the bombing in Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, on Saturday was taken to the Metropolitan Police laboratories in Lambeth and to explosive experts at Woolwich Arsenal. Mr Huckleby said that 180 dustbins and seven builder's

skips filled with debris had been taken from the street. The police have also removed eight of the cars parked by Harrods at the time of the blast, three shop windows and the remains of green and gold Harrods canopies. The evidence produced from the forensic investigation will be sent to the special inquiry centre, which is now spread across an entire floor at Scotland Yard. The centre and its operations room are believed to be the largest the Yard has ever assembled. The police have brought in specialized methods of cross-reference and collation for the inquiry, which will try to pinpoint events between midnight and 1.21 pm, when the bomb exploded in one of London's busiest streets.

They are using the knowledge gained from a course in the latest techniques of handling data and intelligence provided by an American company in September. Today Mr Huckleby will appear at the opening of inquests into the five people who died in the blast. Their post-mortem examinations took almost two days. The inquests, to be held by the Westminster coroner, are expected to be adjourned after a brief hearing. Yesterday PC Joho Gordon, who lost his right leg when he was caught by the blast with his alsaian sniffer dog, underwent an operation. Surgeons may have to amputate his left leg. Scotland Yard said last night that his condition was "critical but stable". Since the blast the police have dealt with at least 800 false alarms and yesterday two men were arrested after an attempt to hold up Lloyds Bank in Kensington High Street with a package which was claimed to contain explosives. The bank was evacuated for a time while the police examined the package.

There was criticism yesterday of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament for holding



PC John Gordon: Still in critical condition.

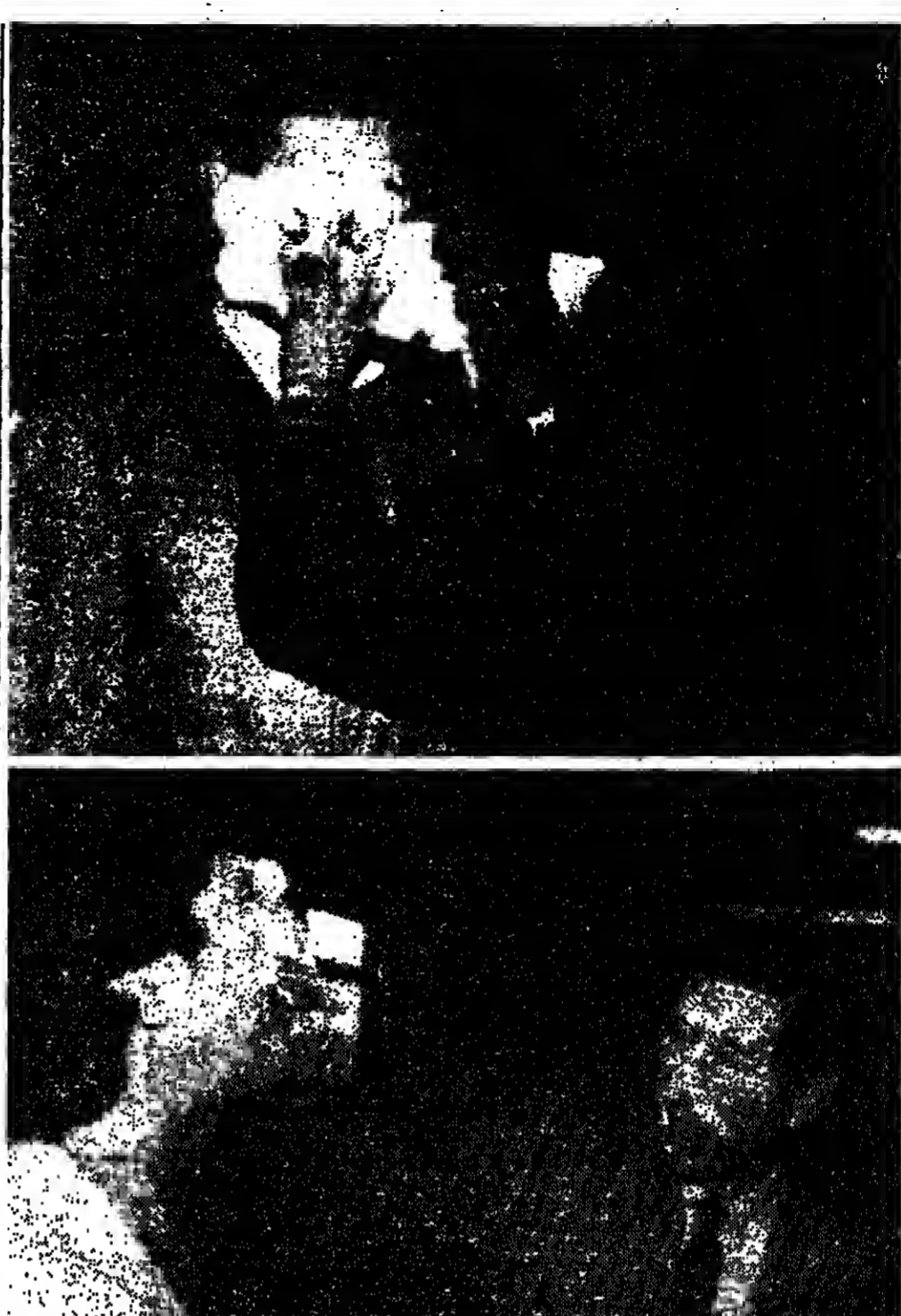
Ireland set to toughen law on IRA

By Richard Ford, Dublin

The Government of the Irish Republic is to consider toughening laws on incitement to violence and hatred but has postponed a decision on banning Provisional Sinn Fein, the Provisional IRA's political wing. While 2,000 soldiers and police continued searching woods in Leitrim, where they believe Mr Don Tidy's Provisional IRA kidnappers are trapped, the Cabinet met in Dublin to consider a series of security reports. Dr Garret FitzGerald promised a review of the threat posed to the state by subversives as anger mounted at the death of two members of the security forces in shoot-out during Mr Tidy's rescue.

The Government security committee met before the full Cabinet knowing some ministers favoured an immediate ban. Eventually ministers decided to review existing legislation allowing for sentences of 20 years conviction of incitement to violence to see if it could be made more effective in "prosecuting and convicting those promoting the activities of unscrupulous terrorists by incitement to violence or hatred". In a clear reference to Provisional Sinn Fein and the Irish Republican Socialist Party, political wing of Irish National Liberation Army, the Cabinet also decided to consider further measures against the "insidious actions of those promoting terror activities while claiming to be unassociated with them".

In the review the Government will consult the police and army but, more unusually, will involve Mr Charles Haughey, the opposition leader, who has promised his Fianna Fail party's support. In an attempt to placate public opinion the Government will consider further restrictions on reports of Provisional Sinn Fein activities. Pledge to resist, page 2



Target practice: Pie-in-the-face day for the Prince of Wales during a visit to a newly-opened community centre in Manchester yesterday. Katie Slater, aged 15, gained royal assent before launching her foam pie at the Prince (top) and Mr Stephen Starkie, director of Bolton's Hallucination Theatre, became the target of the Prince.

Israeli jets watch Arafat's tiny armada sail away

From Robert Fisk, Tripoli, northern Lebanon

Escorted by five French warships and an aircraft carrier, Mr Yasser Arafat and his 4,000 guerrillas left their last Lebanese enclave at Tripoli yesterday on board five Greek ferryboats. They sailed under a diminutive UN flag, watched all the time by the Israeli Air Force, their military power finally extinguished by the Arabs. The Israelis scot their reconnaissance jets to watch Mr Arafat's tiny armada sail at dusk amid the thunder of farewell gunfire from the guerrillas on deck and the explosions of rocket-propelled grenades just outside the Tripoli front line, where Mr Arafat's Palestinian and Syrian opponents were celebrating victory.

PLO officials in Tripoli were suggesting before their departure, however, that Mr Arafat may try to stage a political coup by travelling south to Amman to reopen negotiations with King Hussein of Jordan for autonomy on the occupied West Bank under the terms of President Reagan's Middle East peace plan. Reports circulating in Tripoli said that the King would be happy to see the PLO chairman, but the Americans could well question whether Mr Arafat - if he at last decides to negotiate - any longer represents the Palestinian people. Mr Arafat called the evacuation a sad day for the Palestinians, while Abu Jihad.

Mr Khalil Wazzir, his military commander, talked angrily of the Syrian "conspiracy" which had brought about the PLO's departure. Curiously, even in his moment of utter defeat, Mr Arafat appeared anxious to keep open the option of future talks with Damascus. In a short and slightly strained ceremony late on Monday night, at which he thanked the Mayor and city fathers of Tripoli for their "support" - a word with which the burghers might not have agreed - he also said that he had not asked for the battle. JERUSALEM: Israel last night defended its policy of veiled threats against the PLO. Continued on back page, col 1

Donaldson memo 'mole' dismissed

By John Witherow

A junior civil servant was dismissed from the Department of Employment yesterday for leaking a confidential memo, which showed that Sir John Donaldson, the Master of the Rolls, gave advice to the Government on industrial relations reforms. The administration trainee, a graduate who had been in the department for 18 months, was suspended earlier this month without pay after details of the document were published in The Guardian newspaper and Time Out magazine on November 30. The document, which the Department of Employment said had been stolen, showed that Sir John discussed legislative proposals last year with Mr Michael Quinlan, then permanent secretary designate of the department.

Wage deals too high says Bank

By Peter Wilson-Smith Banking Correspondent

Pay settlements are still too high and need to come down further to improve industry's competitiveness, the Bank of England says in its latest Quarterly Bulletin. But it is more optimistic about growth prospects than it was a few months ago. The Bank has come round to the Treasury view that the economy is growing at about 3 per cent a year. It believes that improved company finances could herald a pick-up in capital spending, which will help to sustain the recovery once consumer spending slackens. The Bank is still worried about industry's ability to compete internationally. The Bulletin points to big improvements in productivity in the past three years and the fall in the pound since autumn 1982 which has helped to improve competitiveness. British costs, however, are still high by international comparison and "moderation in wage increases therefore remains very important," the Bank says. The Bank would like to see pay settlements falling faster and although deals in the new pay round are down slightly, inflation has fallen faster over the same period. The Bulletin criticizes the US Administration for running a big budget deficit. This has kept interest rates higher than necessary and threatens the continuation of the world recovery, it says. Further confirmation that economic activity is still picking up came yesterday with publication of the revised output measure of gross domestic product, which rose 1.2 per cent in the third quarter to a level 2.2 per cent above the third quarter of 1982. Kenneth Fleet, page 16

Advertisement for Famous Grouse Scotch Whisky. It features a large illustration of a grouse standing on a rocky outcrop. Below the illustration is a bottle of Famous Grouse Scotch Whisky and two glasses filled with whisky. The text reads: 'THE FAMOUS GROUSE HIGHEST SCOTCH WHISKY'. At the bottom, it says 'Quality in an age of change.'

Satellite deal may launch UK astronaut

By Rodney Cowton Defence Correspondent

The prospect of Britain putting an astronaut into space came a stage nearer with the decision yesterday to launch British military communications satellites, using the American space shuttle rather than the European Ariane rocket. Two Skynet IV satellites will be launched - the first in late 1985 and the second in 1986 - at a combined cost of £60m. As a result of choosing the shuttle, Britain becomes entitled to send an astronaut on a future flight. The Ministry of Defence said yesterday that ministers had not yet considered whether to take up the opportunity. That decision was peripheral to

the main one of determining which launch vehicle to use. The Ministry has refused to discuss any details about the selection and training of an astronaut, although it is believed that it has a short list of candidates drawn from people with experience in the Royal Air Force and Royal Navy. The Government's decision was announced in the Commons through a written reply by Mr John Lee, the Under-Secretary of State for Defence Procurement. It will have come as a severe blow to the Ariane project and, in particular the French, who have a more than 60 per cent stake in it. The British stake is not quite 2.5 per cent. The Ministry of Defence said, using the shuttle was cheaper than Ariane, but Britain would continue to give Ariane full consideration for the launch of future satellites. Skynet IV has been designed from the start to be competitive with the shuttle, but the Ministry said the second stage of the Skynet project would be designed to be compatible with Ariane as well. Skynet IV will be the first British military communications satellite to be put in orbit for more than 10 years. Skynet II is believed to be operating beyond its designed life and Skynet III was cancelled. The satellites, for which British Aerospace Dynamics is

the main contractor and Marconi Space and Defence Systems the equally important main sub-contractors, will be able to operate on a much larger number of channels than Skynet II. The satellites have been designed to be resistant to electronic jamming and to be able to withstand the effect of nuclear bursts. Until the setback represented by the British decision, the Ariane project had had a good year with successful launchings in June and October. For the June launch, the main payload was ECS 1, the first of five European Communications Satellites, for which British Aerospace is the prime contractor.



# One in four men admits driving above the drink limit after parties

By Kenneth Gosling

A pre-Christmas survey of almost 1,000 drivers has shown that nearly a quarter of the men questioned would drive home from a party knowing they were over the alcohol limit. And seven in 10 admit having driven after drinking more than two pints of beer.

This would be over the limit for most, but three out of five believe their driving would not be affected according to a Gallup poll carried out for the Legal and General insurance company.

One in five male drivers admitted having driven after drinking at least six pints.

Mr Brian Palmer, a Legal and General director, said the figures told only part of the story. "If this is what people willingly own up to, we can only shudder at what the full picture might be."

"When a jumbo jet crashes the whole world reads about it. Each year the number of people killed or injured in drink-driving accidents in Britain is equivalent to 77 jumbo jet disasters," Mr Palmer said.

One in 10 of all road accidents involves a drunk driver and the Government is spending £860,000 on a Christmas campaign.

Campaigns are ignored by more than 40 per cent of drivers, according to the survey. And even where a partner or a

friend has been chosen to drive home from a party, one in seven is likely to be near or over the limit.

Drivers also ignore the threat to their finances and their jobs if they have their licences suspended for at least a year. One estimate yesterday was that a driver in this position could have to pay between £10,000 and £12,000 to replace his normally car-borne activities, including his job.

Drivers also face a doubling of their premiums and a cut in cover from comprehensive to third party, especially if they have offended more than once.

Some companies protect valued members of staff by taking out cover with the St Christopher Motorists' Security Association which gives a benefit of £3,000 for a three-star plan on a premium of £64 a year and £8,500 for a five-star policy which costs £175.

"We don't pick up the heavy drinkers," Mr Mario O'Neill, the company's managing director said. "We will not pay out if a motorist is over double the legal maximum. We don't want to be seen as a drunkards' charter."

"We normally acquire people in the professions who know they are at risk if they have one or two drinks. And it's a fallacy that it is just at this point in the year. During the summer is

when people are more relaxed and go out for a pint or two".

A copy of the Gallup poll, conducted nationally between December 7 and 12 among a representative sample, almost equally divided between the sexes, of 962 adults, has been sent to Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State for Transport.

Women were shown to be slightly more nervous when driving at public house closing times and a little more inclined than men to view the present penalties as not strict enough.

No women admitted having driven after drinking six or more pints of beer. But two per cent had, they said, taken between five and five-and-a-half pints.

● In its annual report the London Council on Alcoholism says it had more than 800 calls last year, 40 per cent from problem drinkers themselves. The total figure was 10 per cent up on last year, which had shown a rise of 20 per cent on the year before.

Among referrals the proportion of women was higher than that of men, although new clients referred by someone else showed a much higher proportion of men.

The age range is expanding, the report says, to include those under 20 and over 60.

# Six jailed for huge bullion tax fraud

A former bank robber, Ronald Dark, and Old Harrovia Spencer Eade, had one thing in common: a taste for wealth. It led them to join a gang of gold swindlers who made a profit of at least £6m from a value-added tax fraud.

At the Central Criminal Court yesterday they and four others were jailed and fined. Customs officers believe that other members of the gang are living abroad "in style".

Judge Sntcliffe had postponed sentencing the group for two weeks so that the Customs and Excise could investigate where the proceeds of the fraud were.

A substantial amount is now understood to have been traced, although nearly £2m was mysteriously withdrawn from the Credit Suisse bank in Switzerland.

Eade, a former Ministry of Defence information officer and an arms exporter, used his company to import gold ingots from Switzerland, the court was told.

With his legitimate firm, Scan Defence International, he could defer paying VAT on the gold for three months. It was that which allowed the swindle to operate.

In three months the group traded in £40m worth of bullion. It was sold to dealers who were charged 15 per cent VAT which was then pocketed by the group.

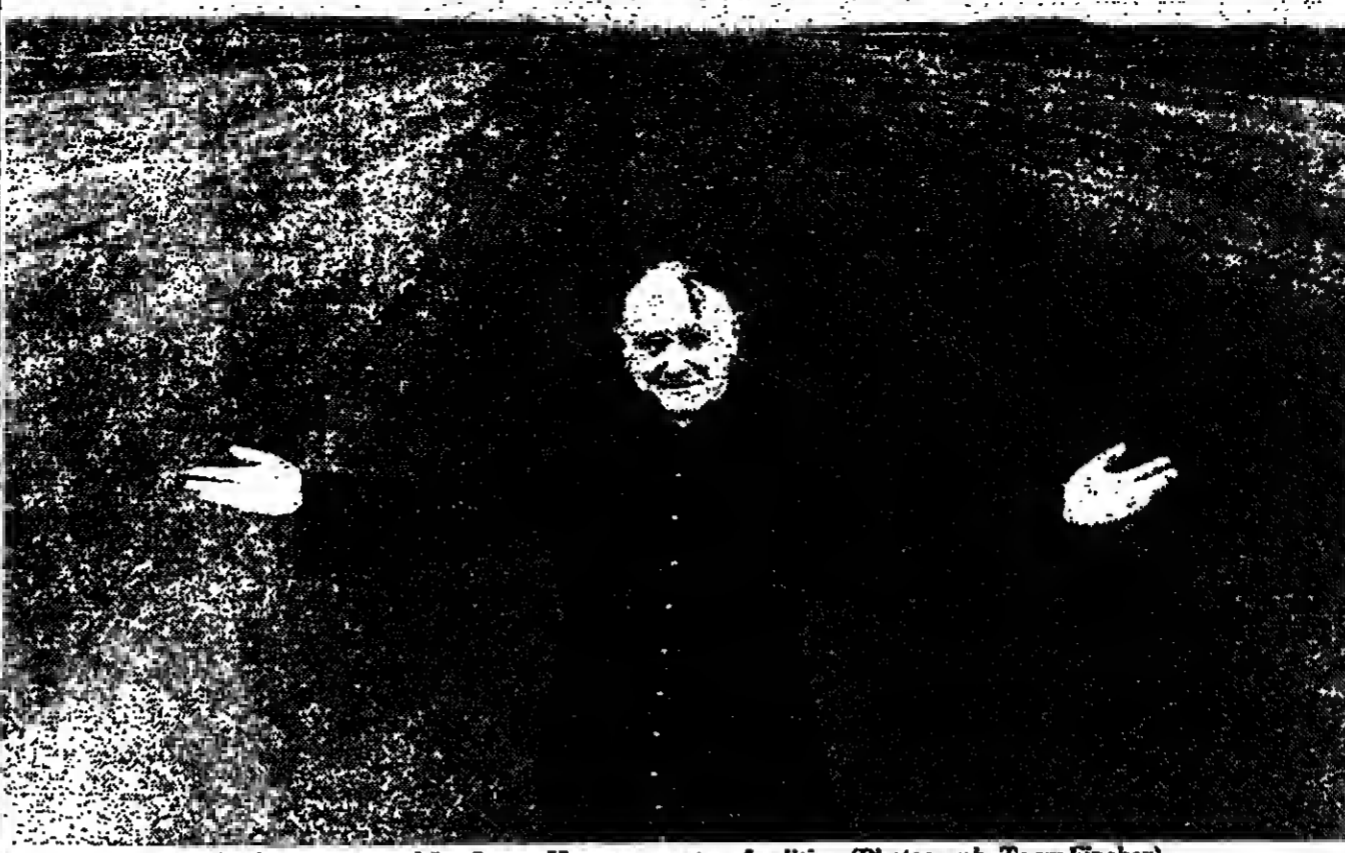
Eade, described as an intelligent ring leader by Judge Sntcliffe, was jailed for a total of three and a half years and fined £90,000 with nine months to pay. Eade, of Delphin, Portlade, East Sussex, had denied fraud.

Dark, of Preston Road, Wembley, north-west London, who was released from prison in 1979, admitted his part as a "front man" for the group. He was jailed for 12 months and fined £3,000 with six months to pay.

Len Berry, aged 47, a company director, of the Houseboat, Taggs Island, Hampton, south-west London, his wife Freda, aged 44, Christopher Michael, aged 43, a public relations consultant, of Greenstead House, Coombe Hill Road, East Grinstead, West Sussex; and Terence Ward, aged 42, a salesman, of Cranford, central London, had all denied their part in the fraud.

Berry, also described as a ringleader, was jailed for five and a half years and fined £100,000. His wife, who acted as a bookkeeper in the fraud, was jailed for two years with one year suspended.

Michael was jailed for four years and fined £100,000 and Ward was jailed for 18 months. Criminal bankruptcy orders were made against all defendants except Dark and Ward.



Pilgrim's progress: Mgr James Horan, a master of politics. (Photograph: Terry Fincher).

# Knock airport A priest's dream or folly

By Richard Ford

The view from the 6,000ft runway of Ireland's proposed fourth international airport, perched 650ft above the sea on a boggy plateau, is awe-inspiring. When it is not shrouded in mist rising from the surrounding bog there are spectacular views of Croagh Patrick, Ireland's holy mountain on whose 2,510ft summit St Patrick allegedly spent the 40 days of Lent in the year 441.

To the south-east is the Marian Shrine at Knock, co Mayo, where in 1879 it is claimed there was an apparition of the Virgin Mary.

But the second miracle of Knock will need more than divine intervention if it is ever to be completed to help pilgrims on their faithful progress to the shrine.

Viewed from Dublin the airport is "Knock nonsense". Dr Garret Fitzgerald's coalition government of Fine Gael and Labour will not spend the further £4m (this is needed to provide runway lighting, security, air traffic control, and a terminal building for the grandly-titled Connacht Regional Airport.

The republic's newest airport is destined to remain as no more than an asphalt runway unless the Connacht Regional Airport Development Company, headed by Mgr James Horan, the astute parish priest of Knock, can persuade private investors to pour money into a project that has swallowed £19m of government cash.

That looks unlikely as even if it were completed Knock is thought by Aer Rannas, which runs the republic's three other international airports, to be an uneconomic proposition.

Instead the project, hailed as Mgr Horan's finest achievement, will be forever portrayed as a typical Irish yarn and a reminder of recent political instability where governments were in and out of office at the speed of a revolving door.

Mgr Horan, whose private company put up only £1100 for the project has proved himself a master at politics winning a promise from Mr Charles Haughey, when he was Prime Minister, to support the plan. That with every vote and seat counting he persuaded successive governments to continue

with the project that was being dismissed privately as "sheer lunacy".

But with political stability, Dr Fitzgerald has decided no more money should be spent. However, with another poll the wily priest may still get his money from public funds to complete the airport.

As one of the company's directors, Dr Joseph Cunnane, the Archbishop of Tuam, said: "It could be a big political embarrassment for Fine Gael as they are the party that stopped this development. This is Fianna Fail territory and Fine Gael has a seat which election."

Mgr Horan cleverly played the "deprived West" card, and was delighted at all the publicity surrounding the airport because it was attracting more of the faithful to the Marian Shrine. And the singer Christy Moore has immortalized it with the ballad "The Miracle Airport Knock".

However, the Government's decision against the airport meant disappointment for the cleric who had hoped that by 1985 jumbo jets would be



landing pilgrims on their way to Knock. He dreamed of a traditional Irish airport with peat fires in the terminal lounges. His plan allowed for only nine full-time staff assisted by part-time workers supplementing their meagre farm incomes.

Instead of tow trucks to pull the aircraft from the apron to the runway, he had the original concept of letting farmers use their tractors to do the job and hoped that the spin-off would provide industry for the area and make the airport a tourist attraction in its own right because of its beautiful position.

Politicians in the republic will be relieved that Mgr Horan has no further grandiose ideas which might involve public money. He is now to concentrate on something less costly: preparing his own soul before death.

# PC tells sex bias inquiry of warning

A police officer was given a warning that he would "lose out" if he continued to support a woman colleague in a sexual discrimination claim against the Metropolitan Police, an industrial tribunal in London was told yesterday.

Police Constable Trevor Atfield, aged 31, said that he was later transferred from the traffic division at Hampton, West London, to foot patrol in Notting Hill.

Mr Atfield, who is married and lives in Ashford, Surrey, was giving evidence at a hearing in which PC Wendy de Launay claimed sexual discrimination after being banned from making regular police patrols with him. She also alleges that she was victimized and transferred without consultation to another unit.

Mr Atfield claimed in his evidence: "I have been told I would lose out by supporting Miss de Launay."

Mr David Ellis, representing the Metropolitan Police, disputed the allegation but Mr Atfield said: "It is something I have remembered to this day."

The tribunal, now in its second day, has been told that Miss de Launay and Mr Atfield were traffic patrol partners at the Hampton police garage. They were split up after reports that a relationship had developed between them.

Miss de Launay, who is 25, claims that as a result she could not get the practice and instruction she required from a more senior officer in the handling of police patrol cars.

Both Miss de Launay and Mr Atfield deny suggestions that they were emotionally involved with each other.

Chief Inspector Brian Corbett, who was in charge at Hampton garage, said a sergeant told him that Miss de Launay and Mr Atfield were being sent together off duty. Rumours about their relationship were, he said, "affecting morale" at the garage and there was concern it could have repercussions on Mr Atfield's home life.

"We are not in the business of spying on officers in their private lives", Mr Corbett said. The hearing continues today.

# Divorced wives of clergy 'ostracized'

By David Cross

Many divorced wives of clergy will feel shabbily treated by the Church of England, in spite of official concern about their plight, according to a report published today.

The report, *Divorced Clergy Wives - One Year On*, has been written by Mr Frank Field, Labour MP for Birkenhead, and Mr Neil McIlwraith as a sequel to one published a year ago, *Walking by on the Other Side?*

The results of the first report, which investigated 24 cases, showed that, with few exceptions, the church's embarrassment over the break-up of clerical marriages led to many wives feeling socially rejected by the authorities. Typical of the reactions was one woman who wrote: "It's a much bigger issue than they [the church] will admit. It embarrasses them and they try to sweep it under the carpet."

After the first report the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, said that he was concerned about the problem's scale and anxious for church authorities to respond constructively.

A second survey was commissioned by Mr Field to provide additional data for a working group set up by the House of Bishops. The main points of the survey were: the church's attitude in each diocese reflected the change and the goodwill expressed by senior officials.

But, the report says, many former clergy wives, who believe the church treated them badly in the past, said that there had been no change since the first survey.

Asked whether any contact had been made by the church during the past year to inquire about their circumstances, 20 of the 49 wives who agreed to be interviewed said "Yes". Fourteen said that no such an inquiry had ever been made.

Indeed, when the church had made contact, it had not always been to inquire about former wives and children. One respondent wrote that she had never been asked "except to check-up if I felt my ex-husband was suitable for a new job".

Explaining the isolation felt by many former divorcees, one wrote: "Since my divorce I have certainly been dropped by the establishment and people with whom one was constantly in contact have never initiated contact."

The report says that all too many wives reported that unless they went knocking very hard on certain doors, the church was not interested.

The survey also found that some former wives were unaware of the help which church charities like the Corporation of the Sons of Clergy and the Friends of the Clergy Corporation might be able to offer them. Of 23 divorcees who had been in contact with charities, 19 had had their request completely or almost completely met.

Among the recommendations put forward in the report for easing the plight of former wives is a suggestion that the Church should consider the setting up of a full-time post with special responsibility for the problem.

In addition, the church should lay down central guidelines for help on offer.

Time since a divorce was asked by a church official about her welfare	No.
Less than 1 year	20
Between 1 and 2 years	18
Between 2 and 5 years	1
Over 5 years	7
Uncertain/unclear	14
Never	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>49</b>

# £250,000 damages for mother

From Our Correspondent Manchester

A couple's marriage was ruined after a Mrs Lynn Webb suffered "catastrophic" brain damage during a 10-minute sterilization operation.

Mr Colin Webb, aged 35, a civil servant, agonized for 10 months before divorcing the mother of his four sons. Mrs Webb, a former bank clerk, was awarded damages of £250,000 and costs by the High Court in Manchester yesterday.

Mr Webb said afterwards: "Although I have divorced her, I have not divorced myself from my responsibilities."

Mr Webb, of Lime Road, Haslingden, Lancashire, intended to buy a specially-adapted bungalow near his home where his former wife would live with a full-time nurse to enable her to see more of their children Geoffrey, aged 12, Peter, aged 10, Ben, aged 9 and Anthony, aged 7.

In making the award, Mr Justice Beldam said that Mrs Webb, now 30, and her husband had been advised that she should be sterilized.

But during the operation in August, 1977, at Fairfield General Hospital, Bury, her heart stopped and she was deprived of oxygen.

The judge said that brain damage was caused by an inexperienced anaesthetist's failure to monitor her blood pressure.

"He had not, in my judgment, been adequately told of the dangers associated with the anaesthetic agent and in particular of the risk of low blood pressure." But he said he believed that Dr Aul Seth, the doctor concerned, became a distinguished member of his profession.

Bury Area Health Authority had contested liability.

ONCE upon a time, a young girl called Little Red Riding-Hood set off alone through the Great Wood to visit her grandmother.

Being a kindly girl, she took along with her a basket full of good things including a bottle of Croft Particular, a light, crisp sherry that was the old lady's special favourite.

After walking for some while, she reached her grandmother's cottage in the middle of the wood, and soon sensed that something was wrong.

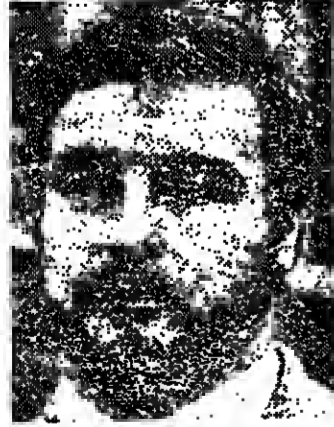
"Oh, Grandma!", she cried. "What big eyes you have!" "All the better to see you with", replied the Wolf, who wasn't actually looking at Little Red Riding-Hood, but at the bottle of Croft Particular in her basket.

"What a big nose you have!", she cried. "All the better to smell you with", said the Wolf, though he had just poured himself a glass of the Particular, and was at that moment savouring its delicate bouquet.

"And what a big mouth you have!", cried Red Riding-Hood. "All the better for drinking with", said the Wolf, taking an appreciative slurp and licking his lips. "Mmm... I do enjoy a glass of good sherry before a meal"



SLIGHTLY LIGHTER. SLIGHTLY LESS TRADITIONAL. TO BE ENJOYED SLIGHTLY MORE OFTEN.



PC Trevor Atfield and his former car patrol partner WPC Wendy de Launay in London yesterday.

# Hope denies taking fee for charity golf

Bob Hope, the comedian, has denied taking fees to appear at the charity golf tournament which bears his name.

Organizers of the tournament who have gone into liquidation had said Mr Hope was paid £88,000 in fees and £53,000 in expenses for the Bob Hope British Golf Classic.

Yesterday, however, Mr Hope said in an BBC radio interview: "I was never paid any money. The money that I was paid for, of course, went for the production and the whole thing. The money is for the production of the show, and the writers, and the expense - that's all."

"When you're bringing stars over and taking care of them and their fares, it's a hell of a lot of expense there."

# Horse stunt fall removed from new Bond film

The RSPCA has persuaded Warner Brothers, the makers of the new James Bond film *Never Say Never Again*, to cut one of the most dramatic scenes, showing a horse plunging 40 feet into the sea and hitting the water on its back.

The RSPCA worked closely with the Board of British Film Censors to have the scene cut for British showing.

Its chief veterinary officer, Mr David Wilkins, said yesterday: "I was shocked when I saw uncut footage of the stunt. The horse was put in a wooden box on top of a scaffolding with a man and woman stunt team. The box was tilted, and all three fell out."

"Warner Brothers say it was examined by a vet, who diagnosed no physical injury."

# Protest over driver's 9-month sentence

A driver who has twice been banned for drinking and driving was jailed for nine months for causing the death of a boy aged 14 by reckless driving.

Gordon Stratton, aged 24, who had been drinking before he knocked down the boy, Timothy Proctor, was fined and banned in 1979 for driving with excess alcohol. He was fined and banned again last September for a similar offence, committed when he was on bail awaiting trial for the charge concerning Timothy Proctor of Brancote Avenue, Mifham.

After the hearing, at the Central Criminal Court, the boy's father, Mr Bernard Proctor, described the nine-month sentence as ludicrous and a disgusting insult.

Mr Proctor said he would see his MP and write to the Home Secretary about the case. "This smacks of cut-price justice because a charge of manslaughter was dropped", he said.

In court, Sir James Miskin, the Recorder of London, was told that Stratton, read his car through traffic lights at Mifham, south London, as they were changing to red and struck the boy.

Mr Bruce Houlder, for the prosecution, said that Stratton, pursued by a tanker driver who had seen the incident, drove on at high speed, swerving violent-

ly from side to side in order to throw off the boy.

The boy was hurled from the car and struck his head on the pavement. A pathologist said that he believed this was the immediate cause of his death. Stratton, of Strawberry Lane, Carshalton, Surrey, pleaded guilty to causing death by reckless driving. Mr Houlder said that the Crown was prepared to accept Stratton's plea of not guilty to manslaughter because he had panicked.

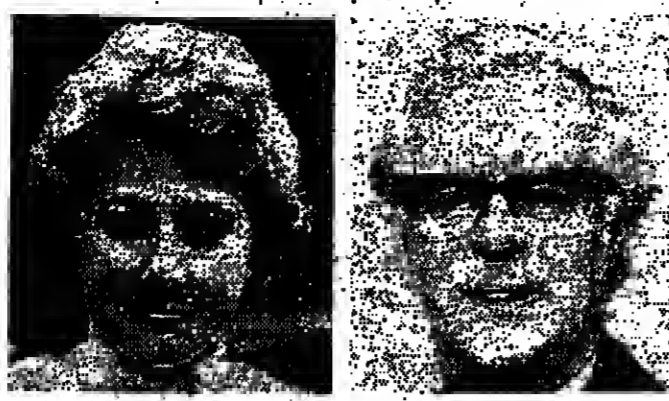
Sir James said that he was "satisfied" that Stratton was not over the legal alcohol limit when he hit the boy, but told Stratton: "Drink helped you to drive at a reckless speed."

Minister declines to intervene in Scott Lithgow

SHIPBUILDING

The record of the British Shipbuilding yard of Scott Lithgow on keeping to budget and to time was abysmal, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said during a question time in the Commons.

strated that the rig could be delivered by February 1984. BS have responded to the cancellation notice by disputing its validity and I understand that they have now instituted legal proceedings.



McCarley: Cannot pull plug

Millan: Jobs can be saved

industry should be left to litigation by one wholly-owned, public corporation against another 48 per cent-owned public corporation while the chairman of BS himself has departed for a three week holiday abroad.

Noraid money going to those who pursue violence

TERRORISM

Mrs Thatcher coupled a condemnation of financial support for Noraid, the fund-raising organization for the IRA in the United States, with agreement that most American and Irish people condemned violence as a means of pursuing political ends.

occasion in the death of one American citizen and the injury of others.

Child sex case judge criticized by MPs

PM's QUESTIONS

Legislation is to be introduced to allow the Court of Appeal to consider sentences alleged to be too lenient, not with a view to changing those sentences, but so that there might be a guide on future sentences.

£1 makes a hole in the pocket

HOUSE OF LORDS

The £1 coin was now being called "a magpie" and it was being described as a "magpie" and it was being described as a "magpie".

Tough targets set for some Welsh councils: low rate rises forecast

WALES

Expenditure targets set for Welsh local authorities for 1984-85 are tough for some but reasonable for all, Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, said in a statement to the Commons on the fourth day of the Welsh Assembly.

amount of grant withheld from an authority is directly related to its own expenditure. As a result the expenditure decisions of other authorities.

Abuses by professional fund raisers

The principle of charitable giving could slip over into a pocket-lining exercise on the part of certain individuals or companies for which the activities of a few reckless or dishonest people, Mr David Mellor, Under-Secretary of State for Home Affairs, said in replying to a Commons debate on charities early this afternoon.

There is a continuing need for restraint in local government expenditure in the current year of 75 per cent at 6 per cent spending above target.

Research into exam results

EDUCATION

The Cox and Marks report on standards in English Schools, which claimed that secondary modern and grammar schools together had better examination results than comprehensive schools, was defended by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, during a question time in the Commons.

It is often argued between professional researchers, that the officials who advise on this have been accused of acting with political motives and that one has been named.

Educational needs of unemployed

Mr David Knox (Staffordshire, Moorlands, Ch) There is deep public concern about village school closures. Publication of guidelines on the size of school districts from alternative schools, travel conditions and so on would help to reassure people.

Government against a new council

The Government has decided not to set up a national development council to promote future development in adult continuing education.

Procedure for closing schools unchanged

Mr Robert Duan, Under Secretary of State for Education and Science, asked if his department would publish guidelines for use when closing of village schools were proposed.

Who'll be home for Christmas? What better way of bringing Christmas spirit into your home than a bottle of Johnnie Walker Red Label? Enjoy with family and friends the taste of the world's most distinctive Scotch Whisky. Have a very Merry Christmas. Johnnie Walker Red Label. Recognised everywhere.

Geoffrey Smith... increase in income... shadows...

Genetic engineering: 3

Super mice lead the field

Outsize mice scampering around a veterinary research laboratory in the United States are the most striking demonstration so far of the potential of genetic engineering to transform mammals, including humans.

Genetic manipulation of higher animals and plants is perhaps seven or eight years behind the research on simple single-cell bacteria, described in the first article of this series. The complex arrangement of the material (DNA) in animal and plant chromosomes is not understood well enough for scientists to splice in a particular gene and make it work in the correct tissues at the right time.

But the "giant mice" experiment, a collaborative effort by Dr Richard Palmiter, of the University of Washington in Seattle, and Dr Ralph Brinster, of the University of Pennsylvania, shows what can be achieved with our present imperfect understanding. Dr Brinster injected many copies of a rat growth hormone gene produced by Dr Palmiter into fertilized mouse eggs which were then implanted in foster mother mice.

Some of the resulting baby mice grew to twice normal size, stimulated by high levels of the hormone and, most significantly, they passed the genes on to their own offspring. The original line of double-sized mice, carrying eight rat hormone genes, is now in its fourth generation, and the laboratory has recently produced a similarly sized strain with human growth hormone genes.

Direct micro-injection of DNA is a hit-or-miss method of transforming mammalian eggs; fewer than half of Dr Brinster's mice successfully incorporated the genes, and other laboratories have had less success. From a technical point of view, similar experiments could be performed on human eggs, but they would be morally unacceptable, given all the uncertainties. The potential for transforming farm animals is immense, however, and breeders of pigs, sheep, cattle and poultry are rushing to exploit genetic engineering. The first results are likely within two or three years.

Although the most important traits in domestic animals, such as fertility, are affected by a large number of unknown genes, the giant mice experiment showed what impact a single gene could have on the complex process of growth. The overall effect of such a simple transformation remains to be seen; suddenly doubling the size of pigs, for example, could cause breeding or health problems.

Where particular proteins are important for an agricultural product, such as casein in milk and keratin in wool, improvement through genetic engineering should not be difficult. There is also scope for inserting individual genes which confer resistance to certain animal diseases or which change the reproductive system (for instance a twinning gene is known in sheep).

But plants contribute more than animals to world food supplies, and an even bigger agricultural research effort is devoted to their genetic manipulation. This year, plant engineers have passed several milestones on the road to an ample paradise of nutritious crops growing faster than today's, whatever the weather, without added pesticides or fertilizers.

A bacterial gene for resistance to an antibiotic worked in petunia cells, the first success with foreign DNA in plant cells. Tobacco plantlets produced a bean protein, the first genetic transformation of whole plants.

Tobacco was given a hybrid gene that not only conferred antibiotic resistance but also was switched on by light and off by darkness, a key step towards regulating the function of genetically engineered plants. Progress has been most rapid in broad-leaved plants, such as tobacco and petunia, for two important reasons. First, scientists have found a natural carrier, called the Ti plasmid, which readily inserts foreign DNA into their cells. Second, the regeneration of a whole plant from a single cell is possible for certain broad-leaved species.

Unfortunately, neither technique is yet applicable to staple crops such as rice, wheat and maize. However, plant scientists such as Dr John Ingle, who heads the Agricultural Research Council's genetic engineering programme, report rapid progress. Genetic manipulation of any plant will soon be possible.

The most glamorous ambition of plant engineering is to make all crops take their own nitrogen from the air, as clover and beans already do, with the help of bacteria living in their roots. One of the greatest constraints on world food production would disappear if farmers no longer had to spend millions on nitrogen fertilizers.

The 17 genes involved in bacterial nitrogen fixation are all known. The main problem in transferring them to plants is that the chemical process works only when oxygen is excluded. The bacteria can keep out oxygen but it may be extremely difficult to achieve similar conditions within wheat cells. However, Dr Ingle says: "I do not think this is as far-fetched as one might think."

Even less far-fetched is genetic engineering of humans, the most exciting and emotive of all applications. Many researchers expect serious clinical trials to begin within five to ten years, treating inherited diseases by correcting a faulty gene or inserting a good new gene.

Many people react strongly against the idea of tampering with the genetic make-up of humanity as it has evolved. Few, however, could object to "phenotypic" therapy with the aim of curing a disease by changing the genes in, for example, blood cells, for the lifetime of an individual.

Concluded



The bigger mouse was produced with growth hormones.

Challenge on new police powers fails

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Opposition attempts to provide more safeguards against controversial police powers of search and seizure in the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill were defeated yesterday.

The powers were relevant to police action against terrorism, Mr Eldon Griffiths, Conservative MP for Bury St Edmunds, said during the Bill's committee stage in the Commons.

Acting on information, the police might wish to enter a "safe house", he said. Terrorists might not have left behind pistols and explosives, but letters and bills relating to cars or parking tickets might be there.

Mr Griffiths said that in themselves they might not be fundamental to trial but they would be fundamental to the task of tracing terrorists and apprehending them.

The clause dealt only with serious arrestable offences. The Opposition sought changes to the Bill to make sure that evidence being sought by the police was of direct substantial value in building up the case, not incidental to the trial, Mr Alf Dubs, Labour MP for Battersea, said.

Police asking for a warrant should have to state how the evidence in question could help with the inquiry.

Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State at the Home Office, said the hurdles to be jumped of obtaining a warrant were already high.

His worry was that if the law was tightened still further, the power in the Bill could not be operated at all.

Mr Stuart Bell, Labour MP for Middlesbrough, added there was a danger that a serious extension of police powers would be rubber-stamped if entry and search of premises could be authorized by a magistrate.

The Opposition felt that power to grant a search warrant should be held by a circuit judge who would have experience and independence of mind and be able to see that the police were not launching a fishing expedition.

Mr Hurd said the Government agreed that where confidential material was involved, the hearing for the granting of a search warrant should be at judicial level. But where it was not, magistrates should be empowered to issue the warrant.

The so-called mainstream factions, which elected Mr Nakasone last year, continue to support him. This includes the largest, whose leader, former Prime Minister Mr Kakuei Tanaka, was largely responsible for calling the election. Parliamentary turmoil emerged after Mr Tanaka was convicted of bribery on October 12 in the Lockheed scandal.

The party's handling of Post-conviction anti-Tanaka moves by the opposition proved a serious liability, although Mr Tanaka was re-elected by a landslide in his rural home district of Niigata.



Heat and frost: Fireman fighting a blaze in Justice, Illinois, found ice and freezing winds an additional hazard.

Arctic freeze brings chaos to Mid West

New York (AP) - America's heartland yesterday suffered its fourth consecutive day of record-breaking cold which has left at least 22 people dead. A frigid wind from the Arctic left cars immobilized, pipes burst and schools closed.

With temperatures well below freezing across the northern third of the country, the National Weather Service predicted that scattered snow would bring additional disruption from the Rocky Mountains to the Great Lakes.

The Platte River froze in Nebraska and ice floes backed up for five miles. Ice burst water mains as far south as Fort Worth, Texas. A bus driver in Seattle collapsed and died while trying to free his bus from the snow by throwing sand under it. Minor traffic accidents were too numerous to count. Many roads were impassable around Buffalo, New York, which had 3ft of snow over the weekend.

Williston, North Dakota, was the coldest place, with -40°C until a reading came in from Saint Cloud, Minnesota, of -41°C. Then Harrison, Wisconsin, reported -44°C.

The Arctic air mass is expected to drift slowly east during the next few days, giving some relief to the Midwest but bringing freezing weather to the East, according to Mr Harry Gordoo, a meteorologist at the National Severe Storms Forecast centre in Kansas City, Missouri.

The 22 deaths included traffic casualties on slippery roads in Idaho, Missouri and Utah, carbon monoxide poisonings in Oklahoma and exposure

Japan's poll gloom turns to relief

From Richard Hansoo, Tokyo

Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party yesterday began putting itself back together after tumbling dangerously near to disaster in Sunday's general election.

Investors appeared reassured that the party would continue its rule, unbroken since 1955. The popular Nikkei Dow indicator of stock market performance leapt 143.76 points to a new record high of 9,627.98 after dropping sharply when the party's majority seemed in doubt on Monday morning.

The yen also gained against the dollar - up 1.3 to 235.05. Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Prime Minister, was officially able to add eight successful conservative independent candidates to the party roster, thus regaining a thin simple majority, with 258 seats in the 311-member Lower House, which is expected to convene to elect the Prime Minister early next week. The party won only 250 seats, an unexpected setback which had briefly knocked the wind out of the equity and exchange markets a day earlier.

But Mr Nakasone faces a tough few days. Yesterday, he called a Cabinet meeting in which he reportedly said he was sorry for the result. Three ministers - defence, transport and education - were defeated on Sunday.

The so-called mainstream factions, which elected Mr Nakasone last year, continue to support him. This includes the largest, whose leader, former Prime Minister Mr Kakuei Tanaka, was largely responsible for calling the election. Parliamentary turmoil emerged after Mr Tanaka was convicted of bribery on October 12 in the Lockheed scandal.

The party's handling of Post-conviction anti-Tanaka moves by the opposition proved a serious liability, although Mr Tanaka was re-elected by a landslide in his rural home district of Niigata.

never before permitted the Americans to search for 2,500 men still unaccounted for. The gesture by Laos, which said that it had changed its policy for humanitarian reasons could influence future relations between Washington and communist Indo-China.

An official American spokesman in Bangkok said that his Government was encouraged by the attitude of the Laotians. The Americans had been trying unsuccessfully for years to enter Laos and Vietnam to seek the remains of missing Americans.

The question of the missing Americans has been a serious impediment to the normalization of relations between the US and Vietnam, and, therefore, US officials regard this new concession as a breakthrough which could lead to American recognition of Vietnam.

Americans search for their dead in Laos

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

never before permitted the Americans to search for 2,500 men still unaccounted for. The gesture by Laos, which said that it had changed its policy for humanitarian reasons could influence future relations between Washington and communist Indo-China.

An official American spokesman in Bangkok said that his Government was encouraged by the attitude of the Laotians. The Americans had been trying unsuccessfully for years to enter Laos and Vietnam to seek the remains of missing Americans.

The question of the missing Americans has been a serious impediment to the normalization of relations between the US and Vietnam, and, therefore, US officials regard this new concession as a breakthrough which could lead to American recognition of Vietnam.

The Americans had been trying unsuccessfully for years to enter Laos and Vietnam to seek the remains of missing Americans.

The question of the missing Americans has been a serious impediment to the normalization of relations between the US and Vietnam, and, therefore, US officials regard this new concession as a breakthrough which could lead to American recognition of Vietnam.

The Americans had been trying unsuccessfully for years to enter Laos and Vietnam to seek the remains of missing Americans.

The question of the missing Americans has been a serious impediment to the normalization of relations between the US and Vietnam, and, therefore, US officials regard this new concession as a breakthrough which could lead to American recognition of Vietnam.

Commentary



Geoffrey Smith

Why has the Conservative lead in the opinion polls narrowed so sharply? Perhaps, after the Government's series of misfortunes in the past six months, we should be asking: Why are the Conservatives still ahead at all?

There is always likely to be an early public reaction against a party that wins a massive election victory. No government would find it easy to live up to that kind of majority that Mrs Thatcher won in June. Only Mrs Thatcher would do so, and Mrs Thatcher has been distinctly short of miracles in her second term.

Perhaps the very size of the majority has bred complacency on the front bench and restlessness on the backbenches. Perhaps Mr Francis Pym's dire prophecy is already being borne out. Perhaps, but while I am sure that Mr Pym was right that very large majorities are not conducive to good government, I am doubtful if it has much to do with the Government's present discontents.

A large majority was not the cause of Mr Parkinson's troubles. It was no more than marginally relevant to the mishandling of the capital punishment debate by the middle over MPs' pay. It had absolutely nothing to do with Grenada. The banana skins were not wheeled along by surplus Conservative MPs. That they arrived so closely together was largely bad luck.

If the Government's difficulties could be attributed solely to the banana skins, it would not need to worry too much. It could reasonably hope that its luck would turn in good time. But there has also been a much more damaging impression that the Government has in general lost its way, that having won a majority it has mislaid its strategy.

Intentions radical but plans limited

No minister can command confidence if they give the impression of not knowing quite what it is they are trying to do. Is this still a radical, reforming administration? Or has it become a government consolidation?

There are two tests to apply in attempting to discover any government's intentions: test of planning and the test of rhetoric. Early this year it became fashionable to say that Mrs Thatcher needed a new mandate before embarking on her more radical plans for transforming the British economy and society. Then, when the mandate was obtained, it became clear that, while her inclinations were radical, her plans were limited.

The Government was equipped to push ahead with the privatization of industry and further union reform. There were also the proposals for abolishing the metropolitan counties and restricting rate rises, but those could hardly be regarded as central to the Thatcherite strategy. Beyond those areas the Government was in no position to be radical because it had neither prepared, nor prepared the country for, its plans.

This need not have given an impression of drift if Conservative rhetoric had indicated that the second Thatcher Administration would concentrate on efficient management with some measured change. But the rhetoric was confusing. Mrs Thatcher's style remained radical, but the substance of her campaign was cautious.

Increase in income tax foreshadowed

The signals have remained uncertain. During the election there was no indication that public expenditure would have to be reduced. Then Mr Lawson took the first opportunity as the new Chancellor to ring the alarm bells.

By the time of the party conference he was proclaiming that tax cuts were to be a high priority, and that high growth which would be necessary for non-inflationary tax cuts - could be achieved only by lower government spending. At the same time Mr Biffan was declaring that there was not much scope for reducing public spending overall.

A month later Mr Lawson himself, when producing his autumn statement, foreshadowed not a cut but an increase in income tax. A number of his colleagues do not seem to believe that that will be necessary.

Perhaps he was simply seeking to ensure that any cut would take the country by surprise, but he will do this only by giving the impression of taking himself by surprise.

It is this kind of uncertainty as to where the Government's strategy is taking it that is more unsettling than any number of banana skins. Luck may change. Confusion needs to be corrected.

Whitehouse wins extremist libel damages

Mrs Mary Whitehouse, president of the National Viewers' and Listeners' Association, won "substantial" libel damages and costs in the High Court yesterday for allegations that she was a dangerous extremist.

Her counsel, Mr John Smyth QC, told Mr Justice Kinnear that there was an "intemperate attack" published in The Observer in August.

The passage was nothing short of a charge that Mrs Whitehouse was dangerous to freedom and tolerance, was the sort of person who would have been at home in Nazi Germany or Communist Russia, and was a sign of an unattractive degree of filthiness as exemplified by the National Front," Mr Smyth said.

Mrs Whitehouse found the charges and others in equally emotive and irrational language as "wholly inexcusable."

The criticism came in an extract of a biography of the BBC's former Director General, Sir Hugh Greene, by Dr Michael Tracey, which was being reviewed.

The newspaper had not sought to suggest there was any truth in the passage, and accepted that its publication was a serious error, Mr Smyth said.

Lloyds liable on 'Curse of King Tut' accident

A High Court judge stepped into a legal dispute yesterday over who pays for the curse of King Tutankhamun. HTV Ltd, which made the £1,500,000 film The Curse of King Tut's Tomb is claiming damages of more than £245,000 from more than a freak accident insurers after a freak accident during filming in Luxor, Egypt, in December, 1979.

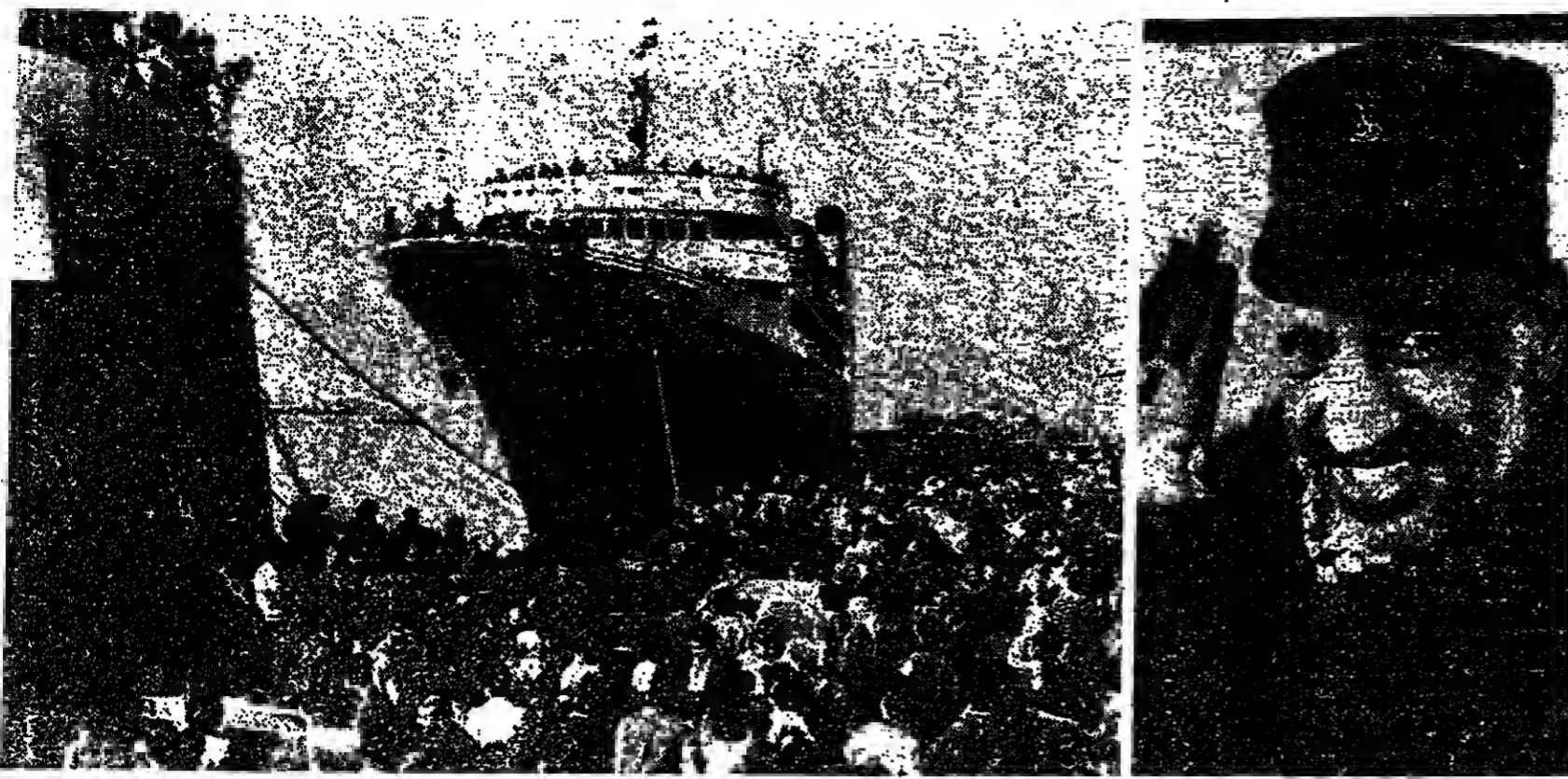
Ian McShane, the actor, broke his leg on the set and filming was halted while a replacement was found for the role of the archaeologist Howard Carter. But Lloyds Underwriters claimed that their entertainment risk policy did not cover the incident and refused to pay.

Mr Justice Neill described how a vintage model A Ford which the actor was driving for a scene in the film went out of control and over the edge of a plateau.

The judge rejected the plea by the insurers that because of the condition of the brakes on the car the company had not done everything practicable to avoid or diminish loss or damage to the property. He found that the insurers were liable under the policy. But the question of damages is to be decided at a latter hearing.

Advertisement for 'Save the Children' featuring a drawing of a child and text: 'Why SPEND £25 adopting a DEAD DOLL when you could help a REAL CHILD'. Includes contact information for The Save the Children Fund, Dept. 321218, 17 Grove Lane, London SE5 8RD.

# A homeless people in retreat, a leader with nowhere to lead them



Odyssey to nowhere: Yasser Arafat, defiantly cheerful as he and his ragged army quit the scene of their last defeat.

## Arafat sails away with mythical victory

From Robert Fisk, Tripoli, northern Lebanon

They were the same victory signs, the same bursts of gunfire, in many cases the same faces. We had seen them all before and they were again yesterday in another expensive production of the same old epic. After humiliating defeat, Mr Yasser Arafat turns disgraced Beirut the new campaign of religious attacks against Jerusalem was intensified yesterday. Two booby-trap devices exploded, injuring two people, one seriously.

betrayed them. It was both pathetic and demeaning, an image of a homeless people in retreat and a leader with nowhere to lead them. The Lebanese policeman on the quayside put it rather succinctly. "Finito" was what he said. The ritual odefest has become almost as familiar as the story of Palestine which always seems to involve people arriving from exile or going into exile on boats. One noticed how old they had become, Arafat's loyal 4,000, how some of them walked the docks with the aid of sticks, not because they had been wounded but because they had been fighting for too long and how some of the younger men quickly forgot the damning reasons for their jobolition.

hand in the victory salute, balanced an anti-tank rocket launcher on his shoulder. opened his mouth to protect his ears from the air pressure and loosed off a missile across the heads of the thousands around him. Only afterwards, when he smelt his breath, did he realise that he had been drinking. Three Israeli jets circled tantalizingly overhead but Mr Arafat's warriors threw hand-grenades into the harbour for amusement, the undersea explosions banging like a hammer against the hulls of the ships that were rescuing them. So it had come to this. Why else would the local Lebanese Sunni militiamen, anshaved, bandanas round their heads, newly acquired PLO guns in their hands, have longed opposite the ships and sneered at the evacuees? "They were

worthless and now we are free to do what we want," one of them said, for Tripoli's agony is far from ended. Why else, too, would one find Ian Davison, a 26-year-old South Shields carpenter, standing in a kuffiah headress with a Kalashnikov rifle in his arms, waiting to be taken to the ship after only five weeks fighting for Mr Arafat. He was not looking forward to Christmas in Yemen and hoped the PLO would let him have his passport back. But there were other images yesterday. There were the young men tired from combat, embracing wives but still unable to stop looking back towards the mountains above Badawi, where they lost their last battle. There were the postage-

stamp UN flags on the masts of the evacuation ships which the PLO men preferred not to look at. There was a girl, a very pretty girl with dark hair, who stood at one end of the quay dressed in a black suit and scarf and who just watched silently and unmoving for an hour. And there at the finale, as always, was Mr Arafat, travelling in the Odysseys in a Range Rover so thick with bodyguards that you could not see him through the glass. Just once on the stern he glimpsed him, kissing a young man on both cheeks, grinning and giving a double-handed victory sign before his bodyguards ordered him from the sight of potential assassins who might just have been among the hundreds of cheering Palestinians below.

## Bethlehem attacks feared

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Less than a week before the traditional Christmas Eve celebrations in Israel-occupied Bethlehem, the new campaign of religious attacks against Jerusalem was intensified yesterday. Two booby-trap devices exploded, injuring two people, one seriously.

The first of yesterday's blasts occurred before dawn near a mosque on the outskirts and badly injured the muezzin, who was on his way to call the faithful to dawn prayers. Three hours later and only 300 yards away, the second attack took place at the Greek Orthodox monastery in Bethany, a hillside village where tradition has it that Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead. A nun going to tend two goats was wounded in the foot when a grenade fitted with a hair-trigger device exploded.

Israeli police believe that the attacks - which were designed to kill - are being carried out by a small group with Israeli Army training. Their campaign is thought to have been mounted in revenge for the Jerusalem bus bomb planted by the Palestine Liberation Organization earlier this month, an attack that has claimed six lives so far.

## Military errors blamed for Marines massacre

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

A congressional report has accused the entire US military chain of command in Beirut of "very serious errors in judgment" that led to the death of 241 American Marines in a bomb attack on October 23. The report was highly critical of officers on the ground. General Paul Kelly, the Marine Corps commandant, was accused of providing testimony that was "inaccurate, erroneous and misleading" who he appeared before the House armed services committee in early November.

Beirut. Shortly before the massacre, congress authorized the President to keep troops there for another 18 months. However, vigorous attempts are likely to be made to reverse the decision. An official Pentagon investigation into the disaster is due to be published soon. The explosion, which happened when a lorry laden with bombs was rammed through the Marine defences and up to the headquarters building, has resulted in a review of safety measures. The report said: "The truck bomb... rolled through a concrete wire fence that was primarily a personnel barrier. It was not until the truck was close to the guard post that the guards had their guns unloaded... it went through a gate that was generally left open... iron pipes in front of the building were not large enough to stop the vehicle... It called to account "the higher policy-making authority that adapted and continued a policy that placed military units in a deployment where protection was inevitably inadequate".

## Iraqi leader given Reagan message

From Baghdad (Reuters)

Mr Donald Rumsfeld, the US Middle East envoy left Baghdad yesterday after delivering a written message from President Reagan to President Saddam Hussein, the official Iraqi news agency said. Some observers said that this might signal progress towards a resumption of diplomatic relations between the two countries, severed by Iraq during the 1967 Arab-Israeli war.

Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, left the United Arab Emirates for Britain yesterday at the end of a nine-nation Middle East tour. had been on his way to call the faithful to dawn prayers. Three hours later and only 300 yards away, the second attack took place at the Greek

## EEC faces cheese-paring if money is to last

From Ian Murray, Brussels

It also means that the only quick and certain way in which Britain's frozen £457m rebate - which is included in the 1984 budget - can be released is for there to be rapid agreement on Community reforms. The alternative would be for either the Council or Britain to start court proceedings against the Parliament for having adopted a budget which is legally suspect.

Mr Dankert made it quite clear yesterday that he utterly rejects the Council suggestion that it was illegal to transfer the British rebate money to a category which could be frozen. The frozen rebate, however, is nothing but an irritating side issue to the Commission, which now has to find extra money somewhere if it is to manage the 1984 budget.

## Retirement at 59 for West Germans

From Our Correspondent, Bonn

West German workers will be able to retire at 59 under a Government plan announced yesterday, to find jobs for younger people and reduce unemployment of more than two million. Under the voluntary scheme, workers who opt for early retirement will be paid a minimum of 65 per cent of their former gross pay. But retirement agreements will be negotiated between employers and employees, and there will be no upper limit on pensions.

The scheme, approved by the Cabinet on Monday, is expected to become law next April and will apply for five years. All workers aged between 59 and 65 will be eligible for early retirement without question, except for those in firms with 20 or fewer employees who will require their employer's agreement. The scheme will not apply to civil servants, Herr Blum said, because they already had their own part time and "flexitime" working arrangements.

## Lambsdorff works on in Cabinet

From Our Correspondent, Bonn

Otto Graf Lambsdorff, the West German Economics Minister, who has been charged with corruption, is to remain in office until further notice, the chief government spokesman said yesterday. Herr Peter Boenisch told a press conference that this has been agreed in a talk between Chancellor Helmut Kohl, Herr Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister and Free Democrat leader, and Count Lambsdorff. Count Lambsdorff is a statement confirmed that "my work as Federal Minister for Economics goes on," his decision was based on his "good conscience" he added. "I will not let unfounded charges push me out of office."

## Arms found in Solidarity priest's flat

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

A secret cache of explosives, ammunition, an illegal printing press and thousands of leaflets calling for demonstrations were discovered in the apartment of a radical pro-Solidarity priest in Warsaw, the Polish authorities disclosed yesterday. The flat was being rented by Father Jerzy Popieluszko, whose outspoken sermons attacking martial law and official abuses of human rights have earned him a following of thousands of Solidarity supporters and the suspicion of the security police.

Stanislaw Kostka, in the Zoliborz suburb of Warsaw. His congregation includes many workers from the Huta Warszawa steelworks who had been acting as his bodyguards. If the authorities can produce concrete evidence that the Church has been giving material support to the underground opposition, and is even preparing for violence, they will have an important propaganda breakthrough. Mr Jerzy Urban, the Government spokesman, confirmed yesterday that there had been trouble in the Barczewo prison, which houses Solidarity prisoners. Informed sources say that Solidarity is trying to win political prisoner status.

## Threnody for the aged carp of Copenhagen

From Our Own Correspondent, Copenhagen

Copenhagen (AP) - The beloved old carp at Denmark's aquarium, sentle for weeks, finally has gone the way of all fish. "We are naturally a little sad, he was kind of a friend to us," Dr Arne Schioetz, the aquarium director said. "It was a regular ritual to let him suck our fingers."

Nobody really knows how old the grey European carp was when it died on Monday, but Dr Schioetz's educated estimate is that it was at least 45 years old. The dead fish, or at least part of it, will remain on display in a museum at Copenhagen University.

## Ship where war ended returns to duty

From Our Own Correspondent, Washington

After 29 years in mothballs the USS Missouri, the American battleship on whose decks the Japanese surrendered at the end of the Second World War, is to be returned to active duty. The 878 45,000-ton battleship was anchored off Tokyo Bay on September 2, 1945, when the Japanese surrendered to General Douglas MacArthur, representing the allied powers, and Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz for the United States. She is equipped with 16in guns, comparable to the largest at present possessed by US Navy vessels, capable of delivering 2,500lb projectiles 23 miles. Currently she is something of a tourist attraction among ships in the "inactive fleet" at the Puget Sound naval

# Pretoria-Maputo deal may leave ANC isolated

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

A South African delegation, led by Mr Pik Botha, the Foreign Minister, yesterday held talks with senior Mozambique ministers in Swaziland. The Mozambique news agency quoted President Machel as saying that the talks were essential in finding a *modus vivendi* in southern Africa.

que cracking down on ANC use of the country as a sanctuary in return for cessation of South African military aid to insurgents opposed to the Maputo Government. South Africans deny publicly that they give such aid, but this is discounted by observers.

The South African delegation included General Magnus Malan, the Defence Minister, and Mr Louis le Grange, the Minister of Law and Order. The Mozambique side was led by Mr Jacinto Veloso, the Minister of Economic Affairs.

Lesotho has promised to supply Pretoria with more information about a plot allegedly being hatched in South Africa for the overthrow of the tiny kingdom's government by a group of mercenaries operating under instructions from an unnamed foreign power.

"The main objective is that no country attacks another. Neighbours are not chosen. They may bother us, or we may bother them," President Machel said. He was speaking at a conference in Guinea-Bissau of former Portuguese colonies in Africa.

Lesotho revealed the coup plan on Monday night. Diplomats in Maseru, the capital, were called for a briefing by Mr Evaristus Sekhonyana, the Foreign Minister, and a message was also sent to the U.N.

Mozambique, which subscribes to a broadly Marxist ideology, has been the target of two armed attacks this year by South Africa, which claimed they were aimed at buildings occupied by African National Congress (ANC) guerrillas.

Pretoria denies any knowledge of the plot, but says it would be ready to cooperate in an investigation "as a matter of urgency" once it had been given "comprehensive details".

A possible outcome could be an agreement, with Mozambi-

# Swiss angry at action of Italian agents

Rome (Reuters) - Switzerland has protested officially to Italy against what it terms repeated violation of Swiss sovereignty by Italian secret agents, Italian foreign ministry officials said yesterday.

They confirmed local press reports which said a diplomatic Note, presented to the Italian ambassador in Berne on Monday, warned Italy that if the violations continued relations between the two countries could suffer.

Switzerland also demanded an explanation for a statement by an Italian official last August about Italian secret service operations outside a jail where Licio Gelli, grandmaster of the illegal P-2 Masonic Lodge, was held before his escape.

## Peruvian police general shot

General Carlos Herrera, a senior officer of the Peruvian plainclothes police, was shot dead by four men in Lima yesterday (our Foreign Staff writes).

The attack on General Herrera, commander of the police training school, came hours after the police had claimed to have captured Antonio Diaz Martinez, one of the leading figures in the Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) guerrilla movement.

## Washington cuts aid to Zimbabwe

From Our Correspondent, Washington

Washington plans to cut economic aid to Zimbabwe by nearly half, to \$40m (£26m) in the 1984 fiscal year which could further strain their relations. World Bank officials have denied that the aid cut resulted directly from tensions between the two governments over recent Zimbabwe votes at the U.N.

## African 14 scold West for neglect

Harare (AP) - A two-day summit on African trade ended here yesterday with a swipe at developed countries and international institutions for withholding support to the Third World.

They admitted, however, that "it is no secret that there have been differences of opinion between the U.S. and Zimbabwe."

Harare (AP) - A two-day summit on African trade ended here yesterday with a swipe at developed countries and international institutions for withholding support to the Third World. World Bank officials have denied that the aid cut resulted directly from tensions between the two governments over recent Zimbabwe votes at the U.N.

## Abortion doctor must pay up

Bonn - A doctor who carries out an unsuccessful abortion must pay compensation to the mother and maintenance for the child if negligence can be proved, a West German appeal court ruled yesterday.

The court, at Zweibrücken in Saarland, ordered an unidentified woman gynaecologist to pay £765 compensation to a 42-year-old woman, now a mother of five.

## Briefing for Thatcher on Kissinger mission

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Dr Henry Kissinger will discuss his forthcoming report on Central America with Mrs Margaret Thatcher at Downing Street today. The former US Secretary of State has just returned from Venezuela where he assured President Luis Herrera Campesino and President-elect Jaime Lusinchi that his commission was seeking the demilitarization of Central America, economic development and the creation of pluralist democracies.

## Murdoch buys

Chicago (Reuters) - Field Enterprises said yesterday it has signed a final agreement to sell the Chicago Sun-Times, the country's seventh largest-selling daily newspaper, to Mr Rupert Murdoch, for \$90m (£64m) cash.

## Ciskei ruling

Bischo, Ciskei (AFP) - The Supreme Court here has ruled that the Ciskei authorities should immediately bring Father Smaagalislo Mkhatswa, Secretary-General of the Southern African Catholic Bishops' conference before the court. He was arrested seven weeks ago.

## Church demand

East Berlin (Reuters) - The East German Protestant Church has demanded the release of two women pacifists arrested last week after meeting a member of the British Campaign for Nuclear Dismantment.

## Drought appeal

Geneva (AP) - The International Red Cross, citing worsening drought conditions in Mauritania, has launched an international appeal for 17 million Swiss francs (£5.4m) in cash and kind.

## Rwanda 'choice'

Kigali (AFP) - Major-General Juvenal Habyarimana was reelected President of Rwanda with more than 99 per cent of the vote in Monday's presidential election.

## Sentences to stay

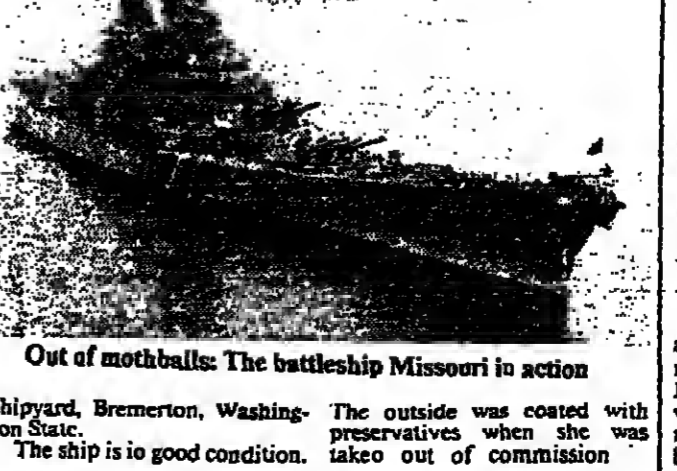
Seoul (AFP) - A Seoul Appeal Court has upheld the prison sentences imposed in August on six Chinese hijackers who forced a Chinese domestic airliner to South Korea in May.

## Eating again

Brussels (Reuters) - University students on hunger strike in Brussels since November 22 in protest against a Bill to restrict immigration have ended their fast.

## Pandora bounty

Brisbane (AFP) - A cannon and other artefacts have been recovered by divers from HMS Pandora, a British frigate wrecked in 1791 while carrying mutineers from HMS Bounty back to England for trial.



Out of mothballs: The battleship Missouri in action shipyard, Bremerton, Wash. The ship is in good condition. The outside was coated with preservatives when she was taken out of commission.



# González flies to Paris seeking joint action against Basque terror

President Mitterrand and Señor Felipe González, the Spanish Prime Minister who is on a private visit to Paris, met yesterday against a backdrop of growing exasperation in Madrid with French attitudes to its EEC entry and to Basque refugees in France.

There has been no official visit between the two socialist leaders since Señor González came to power just over a year ago, but there has been frequent encounters at ministerial level between the two countries.

An organization called the Anti-Terrorist Liberation Group claimed responsibility yesterday for the murder in Bayonne on Monday night of an alleged Spanish Basque terrorist, Ramón Oniaderra, who has lived in France since 1979.

Señor Oniaderra was serving behind a bar when three of four men burst in and shot him. The group was later seen escaping in a car licensed in Navarre, Spain.

There has been an increasing number of attacks and kidnap attempts against Spanish refugees in the French Basque country over the past few months, and there are strong suspicions that the Spanish police may be involved.

Four Spanish police in plain clothes, were recently caught red-handed by French police in Bayonne as they tried to kidnap a suspected leading member of ETA, the Basque terrorist organization. They were im-

prisoned and charged with premeditated wounding, but were released earlier this month, allegedly for lack of evidence.

It was noted, however, that their release came only a few days after an anonymous caller had telephoned the Red Cross in San Sebastián, in the Spanish Basque country, demanding their liberation in return for the release of M Segundo Marcy, a businessman of Spanish origin, living in the French Basque border town of Hendaye, who had been kidnapped two days earlier.

Responsibility for the kidnapping of M Marcy, who was freed last week, was claimed by the hitherto unknown Anti-Terrorist Liberation Group.

In its latest telephoned message to a newspaper in St Jean-de-Luz, the group said that Señor Oniaderra's murder was part of "the systematic line of a crackdown against ETA terrorists which we are going to pursue to the bitter end in France in the coming weeks. The murders recently committed in the Spanish Basque country will meet with a firm response.

"Today's execution is only the beginning. We will demonstrate in the same way against French people who hide, collaborate with or give support to terrorists... You will hear from us again soon."

Spain feels that, despite initial promises of closer cooperation after Señor González came to power, France has done little to help tackle the Basque terrorist problem, which has caused 15 deaths in about 60 attacks in the last three months alone. It claims that the French Basque country has become a sanctuary for ETA militants.

The other big bone of contention is France's apparent dragging of its feet over Spain's application to join the EEC. French farmers, particularly in the fruit and wine-growing area of the south-west, are vehemently opposed to Spain or Portugal's entry, fearing that their markets will be swamped by the unrestricted import of cheaper produce.

Earlier this month, however, Señor González described as "very positive" President Mitterrand's latest comments on the enlargement of the community, in which he called on the Ten to at least set a date for a decision.

MADRID: The Basque autonomous Government yesterday condemned what it called "dirty war methods" of fighting terrorism after the Bayonne killing (Richard Wiss writes).

Protests were held in towns on the Spanish side of the frontier, with main road traffic blocked at Renteria, where demonstrators carried banners reading "You are the terrorists - González, Mitterrand."



No sale: Mr Regan, the US Treasury Secretary (right) and Mr Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, showing the press computers recovered in Europe en route to Russia.

# Seized Russian-bound computers on show

From Mobsin AE: Washington

The Reagan Administration has its concern about illegal Soviet acquisition of Western military technology, by displaying pieces of an advanced computer system seized just before it was to be smuggled into Soviet Union.

The Administration has been urging Congress to tighten Federal controls over the export of high technology to the Soviet Union and other governments it considers unfriendly.

It is also drawing with its NATO allies and Japan a stricter list of strategic goods that must be exported to the Warsaw pact countries.

Mr Donald Regan, the treasury Secretary, and Mr Casper Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, held a joint press conference to show their concern this week. They used a

room crowded with large pieces of sophisticated equipment they said represented about half of the shipment recently stopped by the West Germans in Hamburg.

Mr Regan said the interception of the equipment on November 9 filled what could have been a Soviet cog. If the powerful system, known as the Vax 782, and worth \$1.5 (£1m) had reached the Soviet Union it would have increased the accuracy of Soviet weapons.

Another shipment of highly sophisticated American-made computer, also believed to be bound for the Soviet Union, was seized in late November at the Swedish southern port of Helsingborg. US and Swedish officials are now negotiating for the return of the consignment which is believed to be part of the same computer system

# The Fat One has £239m for Spain's gamblers

From Harry Debelins, Madrid

Father Christmas looks like Scrooge alongside Spain's most beloved Yuletide character, El Gordo. (The Fat One).

That is what Spaniards call the annual Christmas draw, still the world's biggest lottery despite the slipping value of the pesos. The total prize money this year, 53.1 billion pesetas (£239m), is probably greater than the entire annual state budget of some Third World countries.

With 46 top prizes of 250m pesetas (more than £1m) each, and hundreds of thousands of other prizes ranging from hefty to modest, El Gordo is a draw thatSpaniards cannot pass up. At the very least, they know that the smallest prize, amounting to a refund of the cost of the ticket, will be paid to one out of every 10.

Tomorrow morning, just as they have done for well over a century, the boys of St Lidonoso's school in Madrid, togged out in their best blue serge, will hold all Spain spellbound as they strike up their monotonous tune to welcome The Fat One.

The boys stand on a stage flanked by two huge wire cages full of tiny wooden balls. The balls in one cage are painted with numbers, all give numbers on the tickets. Each ball in the other cage is painted with a prize amount. As each pair is drawn, one boy sings out the lucky number and another sings the prize, to a stamptone reminiscent of Gregorian chant.

Such a payoff would not be possible unless Spaniards spent a lot on El Gordo, and they do. The total this year is expected to reach 75.9 billion pesetas or about £10 for every man, woman and child.

The cost of full ticket, with potential winnings of up to 250m pesetas, is 25,000 pesetas, but few Spaniards hold a whole ticket. Most buy shares in one or more numbers. The most common share is one-tenth, known as a decimo.



Jodie Foster: Fined

# Next week crucial for ailing leader

With President Andropov still absent from public view, speculation is growing that he may break all precedents by not appearing at next week's crucial Central Committee and Supreme Soviet (Parliament) sessions.

Mr Andropov, who suffers from kidney and heart ailments, has not been seen since the middle of August, and did not attend the annual parade on Red Square on November 7. "A Soviet leader can only afford so many unprecedented absences before his political credibility is called into question", one diplomatic observer said.

The Soviet leadership is nominally collective but in practice dominated by one man, who sets the tone for the regime and largely determines policy.

As General Secretary of the party, Mr Andropov is obliged to guide the Politburo and Central Committee, from which he derives his power. As head of state he would normally preside at the Supreme Soviet sessions which follow the biannual-party meetings.

It was reported recently that Mr Andropov had returned to work on a part-time basis, though observers are divided over whether he is at his desk in the Kremlin or at a special Polturno sanatorium just outside Moscow.

Informed sources said the Soviet leader spent most of his time at the sanatorium, and was convalescing after kidney surgery. He is said to have difficulty moving about. The United States magazine Newsweek reported this week that Mr

# Turkey gets a warning on missiles

Moscow (Reuter) - The Soviet Army newspaper Krasnaya Zvezda yesterday warned Turkey against strengthening its military links with the United States and said that Moscow would not accept American nuclear missiles on Turkish territory.

The newspaper said that Ankara was ignoring past agreements with Moscow which pledged both sides to avoid the use of threat or force.

Leading Turkish politicians were now calling for an American "nuclear umbrella" over their territory and trying to condition the public to the idea of deploying weapons there, the newspaper said.

It added that this would be a breach of the treaties, and that Moscow would retaliate.

It also reminded Ankara that Moscow had forced the removal of United States Jupiter missiles deployed in Turkey in 1959 within nine months of their arrival.

# May inquiry reopened

Rome (AP) - A magistrate has reopened an investigation into the disappearance of Mrs Jeanette May, a British, and her Italian companion, Signora Gabriella Guerin, after reports they may still be alive. A weekly magazine has reported.

Two skeletons were discovered in central Italy 14 months after Mrs May and her companion vanished during a hizzard. The magazine did not explain why officials think the two women may still be alive.

The magistrate would neither confirm nor deny the report, but court sources confirmed that the case had been reopened.

The skeletons were discovered in a cave in central Italy 14 months after Mrs May and her companion vanished during a hizzard. The magazine did not explain why officials think the two women may still be alive.

# Drugs found in actress's case

Boston (AFP) - Jodie Foster, aged 20, the American actress, was briefly detained and fined an undisclosed amount after \$100 (£70) worth of cocaine was found in her luggage when she arrived at Boston airport from Paris. The drug was discovered during a routine customs inspection on Monday. Miss Foster is a student at Yale.

# Hungarian minister to meet Kohl

Bonn (Reuter) - The Hungarian Foreign Minister, Mr Peter Varkonyi, will meet Chancellor Helmut Kohl here today for the first high-level encounter between a Nato and Warsaw Pact country since Moscow abandoned the Geneva missile talks last month.

Officials said Bonn would urge Hungary to use its influence in the seven-nation pact to try to break the deadlock between Moscow and Washington.

Chancellor Kohl has written to all Warsaw Pact leaders, the Bonn Government announced yesterday. The note was thought observers to be part of his efforts to revive arms control talks.

# Madrid disco owners moved to jail

From Our Own Correspondent, Madrid

Architects joined the public outcry, alleging yesterday that the majority of discotheques in the capital had not been checked under the 1982 revised safety regulations.

The architects also criticized the new regulations and said they lacked precise technical specifications. Months before

A magistrate yesterday ordered that the four co-proprietary managers of the Madrid discotheques, where 80 people died in a weekend fire, be transferred to Carabanchel jail. The five have been held without charge in police custody since Saturday.

Madrid's College of Archi-

# Limits of promotions within EEC law

Apple and Pear Development Council v K. J. Lewis Ltd Case 222/82

Before: Judge J. Mertens de Wilmars, President, and Judges T. Koopmans, K. Bahlmann, P. Pescatore, Lord MacKenzie Stuart, A. O'Keefe, G. Bosco, O. Duc and U. Everling.

Advocate General: Mme S. Rozes (Judgment delivered December 13)

The Apple and Pear Development Council was established in 1966 by statutory instrument under the Industrial Organization and Development Act 1947. Its functions include the promotion of scientific research, development of new materials, improvement in working methods and the marketing of products. Its activities are financed by a charge on growers.

As the council commenced proceedings in the Toubridge Wells County Court to recover from three growers the charge due for the year 1980-81.

The defendants counterclaimed for restitution of the sums paid since 1978, alleging that the continuation of the council was contrary to Community law. The county court made a reference under article 177 of the EEC Treaty.

In its judgment the court held: Activities relating to scientific or technical research, the compilation of statistics, the dissemination among growers of the information obtained and purely advisory functions were not of such a character as to hinder intra-Community trade or the functioning of the common organization of the markets.

On the other hand, the description of the other functions entrusted to the council did not exclude the possibility that they might be exercised in a manner capable of hindering either intra-Community trade or the common organization of the markets.

Publicity and promotional activities might be prohibited by article 30 of the Treaty if the campaign was supported by public authorities. The council, which was set up by the Government of a member state and financed by a charge on growers,

# Buyers liable for repudiation

Berger & Co v Gill & Duffus SA Before Lord Diplock, Lord Keith of Kinkaid, Lord Roskill, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook and Lord Templeman [Specces delivered December 15]

Buyers who repudiated a contract of sale by sample by wrongfully rejecting valid shipping documents on their presentation accompanied by a valid certificate of quality in respect of only part of the contract goods, could not avoid liability for the repudiation of the contract goods in respect of which a certificate of quality had not been obtained, were nonconform with their description in a manner which would also allow an appeal by the sellers.

The House of Lords so held, allowing an appeal by the sellers, Berger & Co from a decision of the Court of Appeal (Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls and Lord Justice Slade, Lord Justice Robert Goff dissenting) on January 27, 1983, who allowed an appeal by the buyers, Gill & Duffus SA, from a decision of Mr Justice Lloyd on July 28, 1981.

Mr Bernard Rix, QC, and Miss Elizabeth Birch for the sellers; Mr David Johnson, QC, and Mr Peterin Simon for the buyers.

# Law Report December 21 1983

tects joining the public outcry, alleged yesterday that the majority of discotheques in the capital had not been checked under the 1982 revised safety regulations.

The architects also criticized the new regulations and said they lacked precise technical specifications. Months before

The sale was by "sample as well as by description" characteristics of the goods which would appear on reasonable examination of the sample were unlikely to have been intended by the parties to form part of the "description" which the goods were sold, even though such characteristics were mentioned in references in the contract to the goods that were its subject matter.

When a buyer under a cif contract accepted shipping documents which transferred the property to the goods had been obtained by the seller, the condition subsequent that it would be subject to examination of the goods by the buyer found them to be not in accordance with the contract in some respect which did in fact reject them.

That was because the cif contract remained on foot, and being a contract of the sale of goods, the buyer had a right under section 34 of the 1893 Act to reject the goods with non-conformity with the contract and retained that right until he had had a reasonable opportunity to examine the goods after delivery.

Given the absence of any suggestion of difference in quality between the 55 tonnes and the 44½ tonnes the GSC had certified as equal to the sample the buyers lacked the finding of fact essential to their defence in part to the seller's claim, in damages that on a balance of probabilities GSC would not have issued a similar certificate in respect of the 55 tonnes.

Lord Keith, Lord Roskill, Lord Brandon and Lord Templeman agreed.

Solicitors: Middleton Potts & Co, Richards Butler & Co.

# Court of Justice of the European Communities

Commission v Council Case 218/82

Before: Judge J. Mertens de Wilmars, President, and Judges T. Koopmans, K. Bahlmann, Y. Galmot, P. Pescatore, Lord MacKenzie Stuart, A. O'Keefe, G. Bosco, O. Duc, U. Everling and C. Kakouris (Judgment delivered December 13)

Article 211 of the second ACP-EEC Convention (OJ No L 347/1 of December 22, 1980) stated that products originating in the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) states should be imported into the Community free of customs duties and charges having equivalent effect.

Article 1 of Protocol No 5 provided that, until the entry into force of a common organization of the market in spirits, rum originating in the ACP states would be imported duty-free into the Community under conditions such as to permit the development of traditional trade flows between the member states and the Community and to ensure that the quantities of rum imported by the member states did not exceed the quantities imported by the member states.

The question was whether that interpretation of article 4(2) was correct. The court held that, where secondary legislation was ambiguous, preference was to be given to the interpretation which rendered the Treaty rather than that which would lead it to be inoperative.

The court concluded that article 4(2) did not require the United Kingdom to limit its exports to other member states of rum originating in ACP states but only to ensure that those quantities imported by it were limited to its domestic consumption requirements.

That interpretation was consistent with the English version, without being irreconcilable with the other language versions, and corresponded to the objective of Protocol No 5. In consequence, the court held article 4(2) of the Convention to be compatible with the Treaty and dismissed the action.

# European Law Report

Limits of promotions within EEC law

Apple and Pear Development Council v K. J. Lewis Ltd Case 222/82

Before: Judge J. Mertens de Wilmars, President, and Judges T. Koopmans, K. Bahlmann, P. Pescatore, Lord MacKenzie Stuart, A. O'Keefe, G. Bosco, O. Duc and U. Everling.

Advocate General: Mme S. Rozes (Judgment delivered December 13)

The Apple and Pear Development Council was established in 1966 by statutory instrument under the Industrial Organization and Development Act 1947. Its functions include the promotion of scientific research, development of new materials, improvement in working methods and the marketing of products. Its activities are financed by a charge on growers.

As the council commenced proceedings in the Toubridge Wells County Court to recover from three growers the charge due for the year 1980-81.

The defendants counterclaimed for restitution of the sums paid since 1978, alleging that the continuation of the council was contrary to Community law. The county court made a reference under article 177 of the EEC Treaty.

In its judgment the court held: Activities relating to scientific or technical research, the compilation of statistics, the dissemination among growers of the information obtained and purely advisory functions were not of such a character as to hinder intra-Community trade or the functioning of the common organization of the markets.

On the other hand, the description of the other functions entrusted to the council did not exclude the possibility that they might be exercised in a manner capable of hindering either intra-Community trade or the common organization of the markets.

Publicity and promotional activities might be prohibited by article 30 of the Treaty if the campaign was supported by public authorities. The council, which was set up by the Government of a member state and financed by a charge on growers,

# Whether rum importation quota is lawful

Commission v Council Case 218/82

Before: Judge J. Mertens de Wilmars, President, and Judges T. Koopmans, K. Bahlmann, Y. Galmot, P. Pescatore, Lord MacKenzie Stuart, A. O'Keefe, G. Bosco, O. Duc, U. Everling and C. Kakouris (Judgment delivered December 13)

Article 211 of the second ACP-EEC Convention (OJ No L 347/1 of December 22, 1980) stated that products originating in the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) states should be imported into the Community free of customs duties and charges having equivalent effect.

Article 1 of Protocol No 5 provided that, until the entry into force of a common organization of the market in spirits, rum originating in the ACP states would be imported duty-free into the Community under conditions such as to permit the development of traditional trade flows between the member states and the Community and to ensure that the quantities of rum imported by the member states did not exceed the quantities imported by the member states.

The question was whether that interpretation of article 4(2) was correct. The court held that, where secondary legislation was ambiguous, preference was to be given to the interpretation which rendered the Treaty rather than that which would lead it to be inoperative.

The court concluded that article 4(2) did not require the United Kingdom to limit its exports to other member states of rum originating in ACP states but only to ensure that those quantities imported by it were limited to its domestic consumption requirements.

That interpretation was consistent with the English version, without being irreconcilable with the other language versions, and corresponded to the objective of Protocol No 5. In consequence, the court held article 4(2) of the Convention to be compatible with the Treaty and dismissed the action.

Russia the

Concert went on Gaubert

Assembly

Nicholas Keaton



THE ARTS

Dance in France  
Russian rock lures  
the Parisians

If French ballet dancers can put on an evening of American modern dance, one ought not to be surprised at a troupe of Russian actors arriving in Paris with a rock opera.

I am told that a tele-recording of the Russian production looked dull on Channel 4; if so, it cannot have done justice to the effect on stage at L'Espèce Pierre Cardin. Acting and dancing on steep translucent ramps, with a marvellously simple decor of a ship's prow...

I know scarcely a dozen words of Russian. I was held and thrilled throughout. Which is more than I can say of the programme of contemporary works by the Ballet de l'Opéra at the Opéra-Comique.

We all know what happens to best-laid plans, and Nureyev's intention of a triple bill by Merce Cunningham, Paul Taylor and William Forsythe was knocked asyly first when Taylor's other commitments necessitated postponing his Rite of Spring until next June...

The score of *Awas*, by Alexis Rihnikoff, ranges from an ancient church music through haunting ballads for the ship's officers to the first-rate rock by a Moscow group called Rock Revue.

The score of *Awas*, by Alexis Rihnikoff, ranges from an ancient church music through haunting ballads for the ship's officers to the first-rate rock by a Moscow group called Rock Revue.

That one is *Maree de morte eau*, a pretentiously silly title for a pretentiously silly work by Tim Wengert, formerly a dancer with Martha Graham.

Infinitely more worthwhile, and far more the evening's highlight, was Karole Armitage's *Massacre sur MacDougal Street*.



Effective transfer: *Massacre sur MacDougal Street*

the need to "faire pipi", but the dancers tackled the complex assignment with its many demanding, balances and slowly evolving movements, conscientiously, although unfortunately without quite the understanding of weight and emphasis that could convert it from an exercise to a lively experience.

also have a round that suggests they have the quality to become champions themselves, and (for no very good reason except a casual line in one of the songs) there is a chorus line of spacers, who are fine when they simply progress across the back, dimly seen through gauze, but Falco runs out of ideas for them when they actually invade the stage towards the end.

The oldest work of the evening, *Dance I* from 1979, shows her style at its purest: based, like the Philip Glass score, on repetition with tiny variations, it has tremendous pace and constantly changing detail that demands, and rewards, close attention as the eight dancers whizz back and forwards across the stage in pairs.

Television  
Gripping snapshot

With 1984 so close, the literary CID, always alert for a significant date and unconcerned about overtime, is already unconsciously re-investigating George Orwell. His case is unlikely to be closed. Exposition is indeed so abundant that generations who have not read him might conclude that there is no necessity to do so.

Should that be the case, last night's BBC1 drama-documentary, *Orwell on Jura* — the *Crystal Spirit*, may have caused them to think again, spurring them to appraise for themselves this odd, lonely chap with the obsession with truth, the admirable scepticism and the deep suspicion of power.

biographer, Professor Bernard Clark, and various people who remembered Orwell's last stand in Jura, for his scrip.

"I read all your damn books", Avril tells him when he returns from hospital; the brief sister-brother dialogue, with irony masking sentiment, on their relative literary merit was one of many memorable moments. The cast, the producer Norman MacCandlish, the director John Glenister and Mr Plater can go into 1984 with well-patted backs.

Aladdin  
Shaftesbury

As you would expect from a line-up including Tommiv Trinder, Roy Kinnear, Lyndee de Paul, and Derek Griffiths, story-telling is not a priority in the Shaftesbury panto. Living up to its name, the Theatre of Comedy company is out mainly to raise a laugh by doing its own thing.

Gales of mirth and non-stop audience contact are the target, and Tudor Davies's production is arranged as a series of spot routines for everyone in sight.

Theatre

You name it, and it crops up somewhere in the uncredited book. Meanwhile, we have to roar a greeting to every entrance of Jill Gascoine's cheeky cockney Aladdin, and Richard O'Sullivan's Wishee Washee; warn the cast of lurking gorillas, and hurl insults at each other.

This is a pity, as the book contains two promising new twists. Abanazer first casts a spell to save Aladdin from an imperial headdress; and subsequently transforms Wishee Washee into a character from the *Lamp*.

John Percival

of *Private Lives*, and it's the kind of thing you lie awake worrying about. That and being an 'all right' sort of Hamlet. I wouldn't mind being extremely bad, and I hope to be extremely good; what I couldn't bear was the idea of being all right in the role. It's not that sort of role, is it?

Now 33, Cadell has already been in the business for 15 years; the son of a distinguished actor's agent, and the grandson of the actress Jean Cadell, he went to the Bristol Old Vic drama school in the 1967-69 generation of John Caird and Jeremy Irons and Tim Piggett-Smith.

"At first I was desperately shy of telling my father I wanted to go into the business, and when I did he told me I'd spend most of my life without work or money. But the only other possibility was Law, and I so hated the classics master at school that I never got as far as O-level Latin, so that ruled that out.

"But I've always had a lot of time for the commercial theatre, which sadly most of my generation of actors seem now to look down on: there's no reason, critically or artistically, why Shaftesbury Avenue has to be a poor relation of the subsidized or regional companies. But, because twenty years ago commercial management panicked at the escalating costs and began doing one-set six-character shows, people realized they could get that by staying at home with the television. Which is what they did. Now we have to get them back by spending some money again on touring shows they can't get at home; and I don't just mean big old musicals."

Monday 9 January 1984  
GRANADA TELEVISION

But, if anything sums up the show, it is Mr Davies's Dame, a hooded roscud-lipped haridan with a honking cleavage, very quick on his feet and no less nippy in ripping off the hoariest patter in the Christmas vault. "I must take down your particulars." "One is without."

special character, harshly vindictive and whimsical by turns, that owes nothing to a director's prop basket or performers like Joanna Myers, regarding the courtiers in these curious kingdoms only as a heaven-sent chance for mugging and grinning.

As the Gullivers themselves (there are two), the elegantly grizzled and bespectacled John Castle, dilly interpreting a multiplicity of nonsense languages from a corner of the stage, sees his younger self find himself successively a giant, a midget, a dumbo among intellectual nutters and a human inferior graciously received by horses.

The Frank and curly Michael Fenton-Stevens dances like a circus freak for the Brooding Nagians and lends the Lilliputians a massive ear, but cannot make his Redriff home base any more real than it is in the book.

Anthony Masters

Concert  
Accent on Schubert

Christmas relaxation in what is proving a distinguished series of BBC lunchtime concerts was provided by the Nash Ensemble in Schubert's Octet, as unsurprisingly a piece of divertimento-type music as has ever been written. Now that Elgar's Septet is quite justifiably rarely played, we are less aware of the strong tradition of early nineteenth century broken consort pieces to which many composers, notably Hummel, contributed many works.

It would have been a callous heart that was not touched again by the generous warmth and lifting rhythms of the Nash's performance, especially in its excellent but always lyrical finale, with smiling, trilling sequences. There were some outstanding contributions from the clarinet of Michael Collins in particular, and two trumpets who with passion and horn took up the agile theme of the first movement showed a sense of fine interplay and responsiveness in the group.

One small aspect worried me. In an interesting essay published a year ago, Arnold Feil showed how meticulous was Schubert's use of accents in the Scherzo of this work: he does not mark thumbs on every barline, as the Nash naturally played it, but two thumbs followed by two unaccented bars — and, as Feil pointed out, the confusion between crescendo marks and accent marks in the notation is considerable, and was not clarified here.

Nicholas Kenyon



Doris Soffel: a touch of panache

Opera  
Linguistic limbo

The Royal Opera's *Fledermaus* dates from New Year's Eve, 1977. The present revival for much of its very considerable length gives the strong impression that it too was cast, and probably rehearsed, at round about that date. The production creeps through Julia Trevelyan Oman's dowdy sets — her least successful foray into opera — occasionally flexing an archaic limb and pointing it in the direction of Strauss's Vienna. But that city remains dispiritingly out of reach: this *Fledermaus* stays exactly where it should not be, in some linguistic limbo, where everyone uses whatever tongue is convenient.

John Higgins

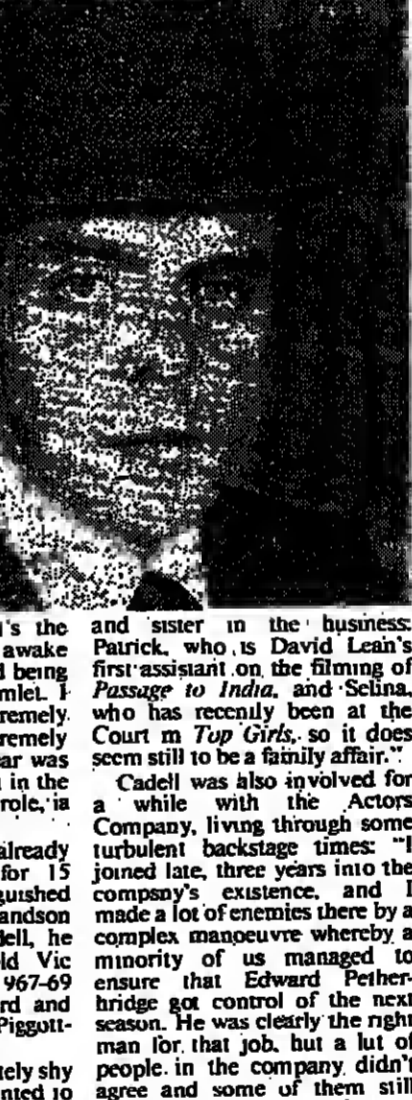
Simon Cadell (right) bids  
farewell to *Hi-de-Hi!* in  
the run which opens at  
the Victoria Palace  
tomorrow. Interview by  
Sheridan Morley

One last fling  
at the old  
holiday camp

Even allowing for Danny La Rue in *Holla Dolls* at the Prince of Wales, there cannot be much doubt that the campiest Christmas show of the season is to be found at the Victoria Palace where Simon Cadell leads the television cast of *Hi-de-Hi!* in their first London stage season. Burtin nostalgists addicted to this everyday story of life and times behind the scenes in a 1950s holiday camp may however be saddened to learn that the current season marks the retirement of Jeffrey Fairbrother, the bemused academic who for the last four years and 32 television episodes has been attempting to make some sort of sense of redcoat existence: though the series goes into a fifth season on BBC1 next year, Mr Cadell has decided that the time has come to return to his legitimate theatrical roots and in no uncertain way — as soon as the Victoria Palace runs in March, he goes to Birmingham to give his *Hamlet*.

This is not however the usual story of the clown with Shakespearean yearnings; Cadell comes from a classic-theatre family and started out in *As You Like It* long years before he ever got caught up with the camp comics. And though the last year of his life has been solidly taken up with *Bourgeois* and BBC seasons of *Hi-de-Hi!* (with the exception of one short break during which, to declare all possible interests, he was kind enough to play in a show of mine at the King's Head) there is not much doubt that he and Fairbrother have gone as far as they can together.

"He begins to bore me, and when a character does that then you must stop playing him as soon as you can. Not that I'd have wanted to miss the chance of these last four years of my life having been extremely happy, and there's no doubt that a hit comedy series on television moves you further forward in the theatre than a hit drama series. Look at what happened to Penelope Keith and Richard Bruns and Paul Eddington: they, at least, now lead the West End because of their television-comedy background. On the other hand there are dangers in staying too long with any one series: I live in dread of the night at Birmingham that I go out to do the first soliloquy and somebody calls out 'Hi-de-Hi' from the gallery. It's already happened to me once, on a tour



Simon Cadell

of *Private Lives*, and it's the kind of thing you lie awake worrying about. That and being an 'all right' sort of Hamlet. I wouldn't mind being extremely bad, and I hope to be extremely good; what I couldn't bear was the idea of being all right in the role. It's not that sort of role, is it?"

John Percival

Gulliver's Travels  
Galle at Latchmere

For all its fully-shirted mariners clinging to the main mast, or choreographed Houyhnhnms in body stockings, Lou Stein's adaptation of Swift is not much more than a director's exercise. It adds little that is not really convincing to stage Lilliput and Brobdingnag by having actors look upwards or downwards at imaginary and unstageable figures; the Laputians' experiments gain little by showing a plastic tube shoved up a toy dog's behind, and the little bits of dramaturgy necessary to cover awkward joints in the plot sound as though they were written on the back of an envelope.

Of course, Swift's satire and his fierce indignation (his own famous words) at mankind's follies and cruelties become contemporary aches in every decade. In London now, who needs a commentator for Gulliver's commendation of gunpowder as a civilized device for blowing people up, for the horse kingdom's sexual equality in education or indeed for Laputa's planning blight through the unfinished schemes of 'projection'?

But all this is in the book, available to read and full of a

John Higgins

special character, harshly vindictive and whimsical by turns, that owes nothing to a director's prop basket or performers like Joanna Myers, regarding the courtiers in these curious kingdoms only as a heaven-sent chance for mugging and grinning.

As the Gullivers themselves (there are two), the elegantly grizzled and bespectacled John Castle, dilly interpreting a multiplicity of nonsense languages from a corner of the stage, sees his younger self find himself successively a giant, a midget, a dumbo among intellectual nutters and a human inferior graciously received by horses.

The Frank and curly Michael Fenton-Stevens dances like a circus freak for the Brooding Nagians and lends the Lilliputians a massive ear, but cannot make his Redriff home base any more real than it is in the book.

Anthony Masters

SPECTRUM

Sweet silver song of the Lark



A sweet and gentle rural memoir is on the verge of becoming a moneyspinning exercise in merchandising.

Shirley Lowe charts the making of Lark Rise to Candleford into a bandwagon for everything from dolls and cosmetics to bedspreads

"Oh, Laura! What a dunce you are," Miss Holmes, the village schoolmistress used to say to nine-year-old Flora Thompson when she couldn't do her sums.

The hardback version of the book was published in 1939 and has been in print ever since. It went into paperback and sold 373,000 copies.

Next year, Lark Rise rolls on to become a major merchandising project worth millions of pounds to stores and to the manufacturers of sheets and stationery and anything else that can be commercially glossed with the homespun charm and simple virtues of Mrs Thompson's lost world.

Flora Thompson was born in 1876 and lived with her parents and nine brothers and sisters (six of whom died in childhood) in the crowded end cottage of a hamlet called Juniper Hill in Oxfordshire.

Flora married John Thompson, a young post office clerk, when she was 24, because he despised her reading and writing as a waste of time.



The rise and rise of Lark Rise: Top, designer Nicholas Thirkell, who has ways of making you read. Above left, the marketing team and, right, the book itself. Photographs by Suresh Karadia.

She recorded a world of simple pleasures and pastimes: the children playing dancing games and peg-tops, the men working long hours in the fields for 10 shillings a week.

The Morning Star, reviewing the National Theatre's highly successful "promenade" version of Lark Rise at the Cottesloe - the audience had to step smartly back as the villagers swept towards them with scythes - saw it differently, as "the harsh reality of rural poverty and the close, supportive but sometimes claustrophobic atmosphere of village life."

Either way, Flora is in tune with our current collective nostalgia for rural simplicity, the romantic evocation in memoirs and reprints and television serials and supermarkets of a bygone era when Mrs Bridges knew her place, every bedroom was sprigged in Laura Ashley cotton, and jam pots were topped with red and white checked cambric.

Ever since Rowena Stott came upon her great-aunt Edith's diary and

Michael Joseph published it in a faithful facsimile as The Country Diary of an Edwardian Lady, the publishing world has been searching for an equally satisfactory money-maker.

Since a merchandising company normally takes between 5 and 10 per cent of the profit of everything sold and as the publisher and the author's estate (or whoever holds the rights to the book) stand to get around 50 per cent of that, you can see why publishing houses have been urging their editors to clear the attic and seek out granny's old flower paintings.

While it's easy enough to see how Edith Holden's flora can be printed on sheets and cups and such, Lark Rise to Candleford is a book of words rather than a diary of pictures, so how do you cash in on the description of the lives of simple people before their traditions

were swept away by the machine age? How do you commercialize an era? The answer is in the presentation.

He chose the tactile appeal of old-fashioned cloth for the cover, made the inside look a little like a cottager's scrapbook and, trying to think of an idea that symbolized the countryside and had a good graphic look for the bookshops, came up with the countryman's red and white polka-dot scarf.

The finished book is a visual treat and, looking at it, one might almost say, as indeed the Lark Rise Merchandise Company brochure does: "What could be more natural than that this masterpiece should form the centrepiece of an extensive range of quality products?"

This is only the beginning of the Lark Rise nostalgia industry. Next year Anthony Cheetham will be bringing out a series of children's books - followed by a range of dolls - in which plucky little Laura surmounts all sorts of difficulties.

Debenhams will launch Lark Rise in July, giving them a two-month lead on other retailers. Manufacturers are queuing up for the privilege of recreating furniture in harmony with the stone and thatch of Mrs Thompson's humble cottage.

The first Lark Rise products will be unveiled at the Birmingham Gifts Fair in February and plans are well advanced for the US market.

The money side is complicated. Oxford University Press, Flora Thompson's original publishers, who hold the rights (Century have bought the abridged illustrated rights only), get 50p of every book sold this year and a percentage increase next.

The same team of Cheetham, Shuckburgh, Thirkell and de Gex are now at work on a companion volume to The Illustrated Lark Rise to Candleford. It is The Illustrated Cider with Rosie.

Computers "Apparently this guy in a Scottish university did a survey on his home computer. He wanted to find out whether anyone anywhere in Britain had found a really valid and useful function for his home computer."

The NGA "Has it ever occurred to you that paper doesn't appear on big holidays, but that this doesn't give newspaper workers the day off, because they're working on the next day's paper?"

Moreover... Miles Kingdon

How to be an oracle

One of the hazards of the festive season is finding yourself talking to someone you don't like about something you can't understand - Uncle Harry, for instance, or electronics, or the America's Cup.

Here are a few handy notions to cut out and memorize, listed by subject. The Greenham Common Peace Women "Of course, Ronald Reagan thinks that all peace movements are a help to his enemy, so he has decided to discredit them."

The Booker Prize "I heard it from a friend who knows one of the judges very well that this year, and every year for all I know, they deliberately chose the book they'd hated most."

"The Day After" "No, I didn't actually see the film. I don't like old horror movies. Nor do I have the American taste of horrifying yourself. The Americans absolutely adore being scared, you know that's why Soviet Russia is such a godsend."

Computers "Apparently this guy in a Scottish university did a survey on his home computer. He wanted to find out whether anyone anywhere in Britain had found a really valid and useful function for his home computer."

The NGA "Has it ever occurred to you that paper doesn't appear on big holidays, but that this doesn't give newspaper workers the day off, because they're working on the next day's paper?"

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 229) ACROSS: 1 Livestock feed (6) 2 Idle talk (6) 3 Longest river (4) 4 Woman's underwear (8) 5 Deserter (8) 6 Adult males (3) 7 Column base (6) 8 Emigration (6) 9 Type of frigate (3) 10 Arabic counting system (8) 11 Glacier fissure (8) 12 Cut short (4) 13 Killed in battle (6) 14 Roof window (6)

DOWN: 1 Coward (4) 2 Luxurious life (5,4) 3 Keepsake (5) 4 Christmas play (5) 5 Difficult journey (4) 6 Exclusive (5) 7 Additional (5) 8 Message acknowledgement (5) 9 Powerful whirlpool (5) 10 Nuzzle (4) 11 Primitives (4) 12 Destiny (5) 13 Mountain nymph (5) 14 Wicked (4) 15 Good (4)

SOLUTION TO No 228 ACROSS: 1 Banzi 5 Doff 8 Tramp 9 Tumbler 11 Delusion 13 Fan 15 Telegraphy 18 Ring 19 Schnapps 22 Macramé 23 Loose 24 Lily 25

DOWN: 2 Avil 3 Zip 4 Introspective 5 Dumb 6 Falacy 7 Study 10 Read 12 Silk 14 Sun 15 Typist 16 Dram 17 Ashen 20 Probe 21 Wey 23 Lit

Bad taste and good timing

Liquid Sky, the latest international hit movie in the weirdness category, is about aliens from outer space who attach themselves to the bisexual world of New York's New Wave fashion/heroine set. But the dominant performance is the baleful, glittering presence of New York as a physical structure, almost as a breathing electronic organism.

"I wanted some Brechtian quality of detachment," says Slava Tsukerman, the director, talking in a crowded pub in Waterloo, surrounded by green spiky hair and the constant crunch of black leather. His own hair is rather odd, long ringlets flowing out of the neck and over his mackintosh. He is given to mirth generally which is just as well since he is a Russian Jew, born in Moscow in 1939, who arrived in New York in 1976 with his Russian wife.

These New Wave people I use are already extreme people who make a theatre of life," he says, "so when you film them it's like double theatre. My feeling is the more ambiguous the film, the better - including the comedy." His wife is in it too. She plays a fashion writer with cold, lesbian-style chic.

So what is Russian humour like? "That's a good question. The British tradition of dry black humour is very like Russian humour. But Russians get

very sad. It's a national characteristic."

Liquid Sky, with its oriental sense of colour and display, is a celebration of his own freedom: "I find decadence very good for showing the problems of society." It is also his first feature in the West, and by some fluke the first feature ever made by a Russian emigré in the US. Eisenstein tried and failed. Where did the money come from?

"A real-estate developer in Pennsylvania. Surprisingly easy, it turns out. Like my leaving Russia - for the visa I wait only one and a half months. It was good timing. Nixon's visit or something. Of course the moment you apply for the visa you are outlawed so you have to get it or your life is finished. I leave Russia for Israel on April 15, 1973 - Liquid Sky opened in the United States on April 15, 1983. Another sense of synchronicity, my Russian film career began with 20-minute shorts. I Believe in Spring, which won a prize at the Montreal Festival in 1962, although the authorities didn't tell me. I eventually read it somewhere in a magazine, and my American career begins with the prize for originality at Montreal 1982."

Did he train as a filmmaker in Russia? "No, as a construction engineer." Then he registered as an amateur filmmaker, an official position since you cannot buy raw film in Russia shops, and began making science documentaries. "It's better now than in Stalin's times. In the last year of his life, 1953, only



Slava Tsukerman

two films were made in Russia because Stalin was exiting them himself and if he didn't like it you were killed. But comparing it to Khrushchev's revolution, which was that short spring once believed in, 1957-61, it's worse now."

But surely Tarkovsky, for example, can work abroad now. "Yes, this is new. When I left it was impossible to imagine that any director with a Russian passport could make a film outside Russia. Now two have done it - Tarkovsky and Konchalovsky. But the most talented Russian film-maker, Paradjanov, who made The Colour of Pomegranates - he's only just out of prison."

Does he think we have a good picture of life in Russia? "I had breakfast this morning with some young people and one of them said he thought the American press was just as controlled by the government as the Russian press. So the first thing I have to explain is that there is no press in Russia, just government clerks releasing certain

things. But nobody believes propaganda any more in Russia, nobody believes in this perfect future society."

"But propaganda can still be powerful even when you don't believe it. For example, I expected very much to be homesick. This is one of their big points. If you read books about Raschmanov or Stravinsky, they say they suffered tremendously abroad from homesickness and never created anything after they left Russia. I knew this was propaganda, but still I was frightened, sitting in a small restaurant in Moscow a couple of days before I left, feeling really terrible like it's the last time I can ever hear Russian conversation. But in New York there are almost as many Russian restaurants as in Moscow."

Would he like to say something about life in Moscow? "The only place you have crowds of people discussing modern poetry all through the night is Moscow." This appears to illustrate the principle that intellectual activity increases with physical repression. "Exactly. They talk because they cannot do anything. If you do anything you go to prison."

Presumably Liquid Sky cannot be shown in Russia? "Oh, never. They are repressed about everything, including sex. All communist societies are very repressed sexually."

Liquid Sky is currently showing in London at the ICA Cinema and the Classic, Chelsea. Duncan Fallowell

Advertisement for Arrow Air featuring the slogan 'TAKE THE PLANE NON-STOP FLORIDA'. It includes details about winter warmer fares, extra value packages, and contact information for travel agents.

كذلك من الأصل

WEDNESDAY PAGE

COMMENT

Exploiting sadness

With Christmas nearly upon us, the senses are assailed by a rash of posters and appeals for help for the poor and needy.

Because Sophie couldn't get back from work to time, I was asked to do Rachel's hair for her first ball.

JOANNA LUMLEY'S DIARY

Bringing on the dancing curls



Quiet smear of cleansing lotion, a final tweak here and pluck there. "If faut souffrir pour être belle," I say.

FIRST PERSON

David Hunt

I don't like being taken for a ride



In the city square in Leeds the Black Prince, bracing himself in his stirrups and reigning in his stomping warhorse, points with approval at the Christmas tree, garlanded with lights and tinsel.

In these days of self-help, independence and isolation, disabled people are doing more and more for themselves with the help of "aids".



"I'm supposed to be there at seven," she says politely, her eyes on the clock which shows 6.43pm.

Coping with a telephone torment

Sarah Jane Checkland on the increasing menace of the obscene phone call - and how to combat it

The Englishman's castle is vulnerable in a number of ways, none more so than through that thin line of communication with the outside world, the telephone.



Nothing better than an exchange of insults. Do not give the caller the satisfaction; simply hang up!



Advertising a wrong image?

Good resolutions for Christmas. Eat the fruit before it shrivels. Crack the nuts before they rattle in their shells.

Make the most of goodies

Peel the fruit carefully without breaking the skin of each segment. Remove any pith and arrange the segments on a wire drying-rack with a little space between each piece.

THE TIMES COOK



- 55 g (2oz) butter
55 g (2 oz) demerara sugar
55 g (2 oz) stem ginger, chopped
1 teaspoon ground coriander

- 4 large eggs
55g (2oz) chocolate, coarsely grated (optional)
Choose a deep-sided, 20cm (8in) diameter cake tin with a loose bottom, and butter it well.

Anyone who's too mean to serve Smirnoff will realise just how wasteful fairy lights are. SAVE IT! SMIRNOFF IF IT ISN'T SMOOTH IT ISN'T SMIRNOFF





COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE December 20: The Lord MacLachlan of Bech had the honour of being received by the Queen this morning when Her Majesty invested him with the insignia of a Knight of the Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the Thistle.

COURT AND SOCIAL

His Royal Highness, President of the National Playing Fields Association, this evening attended a Royal Gala Performance of Aladdin at the Shaftesbury Theatre, London, WC2.



Palace mission: Mr Charles Price II, the new US Ambassador, leaving for Buckingham Palace yesterday with his wife Carol to present his letters of credence to the Queen (Photograph: John Voos).

Art sales have boom season

closed the gap with Sotheby's, long the market leader. Mr John Floyd, chairman of Christie's, said yesterday that the art market had progressively gathered pace since 1982.

OBITUARY

BILL BRANDT Contribution to British photography

Bill Brandt, who died in London yesterday after a short illness, was possibly the first British photographer to think of himself unconsciously as an artist.

He was also aware of the latest developments in avant-garde cinema, and the feeling one gets from many of his most apparently realistic pictures that something lies beyond the scene.

GRIGORI ALEXANDROV

Grigori Alexandrov, assistant to Eisenstein in the famous Soviet films of the 1920s and later a director, has died at the age of 80.

During the 1930s, in contrast to the prevailing trend of socialist realism, he directed a series of Hollywood-influenced musicals, including Jive Comedy (1934).

MARY RENAULT

It was a pity that your obituary of Mary Renault contained no reference to her two most recent novels, The Praise Singer (1978) and The Last of the Wine.

MR THOMAS BLACKWELL

Mr Thomas Francis Blackwell, MBE, DL, who died at his home, Langham Hall, in Suffolk on December 18, aged 71, was one of racing's senior administrators.

SIR JOHN HUNTER

Sir John Hunter, a leading figure in British shipbuilding for 20 years before nationalisation in 1977, died at his home in Northumberland on December 19, he was 71.

University news

Bristol Professor Peter Haggart, professor of urban and regional geography, is to be Vice-Chancellor in the period between the retirement of the present vice-chancellor, Sir Alex Morrison.

Latest wills

Mrs Olive Scott Inzell, Cerrigdrudion, Gwynedd, left estate valued at £57,658 net. She left the military medals awarded to her late husband.

Science report

The use of hormones to promote growth in farm animals destined for slaughter, rather than for breeding purposes, has become widespread.

Birthdays today

Sir Robert Armitage, 77; Sir Arthur Benson, 76; Air Commodore Dame Jean Broomet, 71; Lord Caccia, 78; Mrs Chris Everett Lloyd, 29.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include: Dr T. P. McLean, aged 53, Director-General of Air Weapons and Electronic Systems under Controller Aircraft in MoD.

London School of Economics and Political Science

Undergraduate entrance scholarships, 1983: Ronald Arts, Hammersmith School, Brentford; Science, Anthony's School, Hammersmith; Economics, St. Paul's School, Hammersmith.

Marriages

Mr L. E. Fashaway and Miss A. H. Stockley. The engagement is announced between Lionel, son of Captain and Mrs Tom Fashaway, and Amanda, daughter of Mr and Mrs James Stockley.

Marriages

Mr R. D. Willis and Miss C. M. Lewis. The engagement is announced between Roger David, elder son of Mr and Mrs Arnold Willis of Hale, Cheshire, and Catherine Martha, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Cecil Lewis of Geneva, Switzerland.

Marriages

Mr D. J. Gregory and Miss C. Swallow. The engagement is announced between David John, younger son of Mr and Mrs F. W. Gregory, of Ovington, and Susan Catherine, youngest daughter of Mrs R. Swallow and the late Mr Leslie Edward Swallow, of Hawkhurst.

Cartier advertisement featuring a watch and the text 'le mut de Cartier boutique HARVEY NICHOLS, KNIGHTSBRIDGE, LONDON SW3. TELEPHONE 01-235 5000.'

Forthcoming marriages

Mr H. Cary and Miss A. Cowell. The marriage has been arranged between Hal, son of Mr and Mrs Cary, of Wans, Chippenham, Wiltshire, and Anna, elder daughter of Mr Peter Cowell, of Longham, Norfolk, and Lady Neville, of Edingthorpe, Norfolk.

Marriages

Mr R. D. Willis and Miss C. M. Lewis. The engagement is announced between Roger David, elder son of Mr and Mrs Arnold Willis of Hale, Cheshire, and Catherine Martha, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Cecil Lewis of Geneva, Switzerland.

Marriages

Mr P. H. F. Jordan and Miss A. G. Garloch. The engagement is announced between Philip, son of Mrs C. A. Bridgewater and the late Mr F. Jordan, and Victoria, daughter of Mr and Mrs P. L. Nash, of Broadstone, Dorset.

Marriages

Mr D. J. Gregory and Miss C. Swallow. The engagement is announced between David John, younger son of Mr and Mrs F. W. Gregory, of Ovington, and Susan Catherine, youngest daughter of Mrs R. Swallow and the late Mr Leslie Edward Swallow, of Hawkhurst.

Marriages

Mr R. E. Holmes and Miss L. Sanderson. The engagement is announced between Roger, son of Mr Clifford Holmes and the late Mrs Myra Holmes, of Thornton, Bradford, and Lynn, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Gordon Sanderson, of Edinburgh.

Large vertical advertisement on the right edge of the page, partially cut off, containing text like 'The OW', 'Do', 'NEWS IN BRIEF', '£7.5m rig issue by Carlt...

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

The Prudential sets up 'own' London broker

Prudential-Bache Securities, a subsidiary of the Prudential Insurance Company of America, world's biggest insurance company, is setting up its 'own' London Stock Exchange member firm...

its own businesses rather than bought into existing companies. "We could not wait for the rules to change to allow us a majority holding. We have hired professional expertise at least we believe so, to build a new company brick-by-brick..."

Lloyds spends £23m to lift stake in Royal Bank

By Peter Wilson-Smith Banking Correspondent

Lloyds Bank has spent £23m on increasing its stake in Royal Bank of Scotland Group from 16.4 per cent to 21.3 per cent...



Sir Jeremy Morse (left) and Mr Sidney Procter: no talks on Lloyds & Scottish

Standard Chartered in 1981, Mr Finner was adamant that a bid was not on the cards, although he did not rule out the possibility of buying more shares...

executive of Royal Bank, said yesterday there were no talks going on about Lloyds & Scottish with Lloyds Bank. "They have always wanted Lloyds & Scottish. We have made no secret of the fact that if we could agree on a price we would sell," he said.

Index close to 770

The equity market continued to scale fresh heights yesterday, with investors' demand for blue chips showing few signs of being satisfied. The FT 30-share index closed at its high for the day, 777 up at a record 769.8.

SE names lay members

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

The Stock Exchange yesterday announced the names of the first five lay members in its history. The five outsiders - two industrialists, a merchant banker, an academic and a pension fund manager - have been appointed as part of the wide-ranging package of reforms agreed with the Government...

The lay members will also make up the Stock Exchange's membership appeal committee. Mr Hull, a former director general of the Takeover Panel, said last night that the lay members included a number of big users of the stock market.

Japanese joint deal for Oxford Instruments

By Andrew Corneilus

Oxford Instruments, which makes a super magnet forming the core of body scanner technology, yesterday announced a joint venture to make its magnets in Japan. It is to set up a manufacturing company with Furukawa Electric in Japan, and Far East sales of about £300m are expected in the next decade.

STOCK EXCHANGES

Table listing stock exchange indices: FT Index: 769.8 up 7.7, FT All Shares: 464.87 up 1.35, Tokyo Nikkei: 8,627.93 up 81.74, etc.

CURRENCIES

Table listing currency rates: LONDON CLOSE Sterling \$1.4190 up 5pts, Index 81.9 down 0.2, DM 3.9275 down 0.0050, etc.

INTEREST RATES

Table listing interest rates: Domestic rates: Bank base rates 9%, Finance houses base rate 9 1/2%, Discount market loans week fixed 8%, etc.

GOLD

Table listing gold prices: London fixed (per ounce): am \$375.40 pm \$378.10, close \$377.50-378.25, etc.

Dog-days lose their bite

The stock market was predicting as much a year ago and official statistics are now proving the point: company profits are recovering sharply from the dogdays of the recession. The Bank's Quarterly Bulletin records that profits rose by nearly 50 per cent between the first halves of 1981 (the pit of the recession) and 1983.

cent fall does not leave the sector where it started five years ago. It is still well short of the starting line. Companies have been benefiting from the rise in output while big gains in productivity mainly due to shedding people, have helped to keep down unit labour costs.

Courtaulds plans paint buy-out

By Jeremy Warner

Courtaulds is planning to buy out the publicly held minority shareholding in its 88 per cent owned subsidiary, International Paint, the big industrial paints and coatings group, in a deal worth £14.5m.

Rolls agrees £20m diesel sell-off

By Our Industrial Correspondent

The £20m cash deal for the sale of the diesel engine business of the Rolls-Royce car company to Massey-Ferguson, the troubled tractor group, was confirmed yesterday.

Posgate decision soon

By Our Financial Staff

A decision will be taken in the next few weeks over whether to bring charges against Mr Ian Posgate and four former directors of the Alexander Howden insurance group after an investigation by the Lloyd's of London authorities.

NEWS IN BRIEF

£7.5m rights issue by Carlton. Carlton Communications, one of Britain's leading independent television production companies, yesterday announced a one-for-five rights issue to raise £7.5m net at 300p a share.

Sarasin rescue 'should go to Dunlop board'

By Wayne Listoff

Samuel Montagu, merchant bank adviser to Pegg Malaysia Berhad, the group that holds just under 7 per cent of Dunlop, said yesterday that the rescue proposals from Sarasin International Securities for Dunlop should, in the first instance, be made to the board of Dunlop.

Pattern of foreign investment in Britain is changing

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

A relatively recent phenomenon, the report finds difficulty in predicting the form it will take, even if a substantial flow towards Europe begins. "Elsewhere, Japanese investment has shown a propensity towards joint ventures, but this is largely in developing countries."

Hambros halves Australian stake

By Our Financial Staff

Hambros Bank has completed the sale of 50 per cent of its Australian subsidiary, Hambro Australia, in accordance with the assurances it gave the Australian Government five years ago when it set up the company.

S. Simpson plc

"... we have set ourselves a still higher target for next year and approach the challenge with confidence." J.P.N. Mengers, Chairman

Advertisement for S. Simpson plc listing Principal Group Activities: Manufacturing, Licensing, Distribution, Contract, Retailing. Includes Results in brief table and contact information: 34 Jermyn Street, London, SW1Y 6HS.

Stock prices on the New York Stock Exchange were slightly higher in early trading with the Dow Jones industrial average up 1.5 points at 1,246. About 8 million shares had been traded.

EEC multinationals look overseas

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The Government has been warned in a new study of multinational investment strategies that it would be unjustified to devote substantial resources towards attracting European investment into Britain over the next decade. All the signs, say the study, are that higher levels of fixed direct investment from EEC countries will be directed to non-European destinations; and that Continental European investment in Britain largely is aimed at supplying this market, rather than acting as a supply point for wider market areas.

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK

Surprise payout fails to lift British Land shares

Mr John Rithlat's British Land property and industrial group, has an interim dividend. It is a significant event for the company because it is the first half-year payout that British Land shareholders have received in more than a decade.

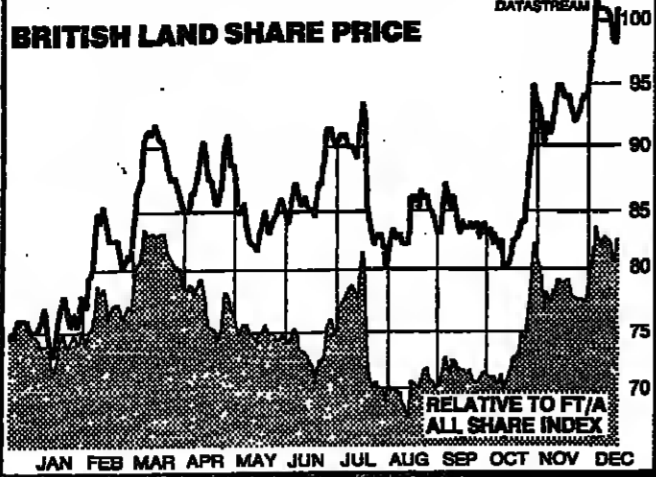
Assuming a same again final of 1.25p is paid, the interim of 0.5p implies a 40 per cent rise in the full year payout. But British Landshare price failed to respond to this news yesterday and closed unchanged at 101p and the stock market remains as uncertain as ever about the direction the company is taking.

Half year pretax profits were up 6 per cent from £3.4m to £3.6m after a rise before interest of 16 per cent. The company has been spending heavily so the sharp rise in bank borrowing costs is not surprising.

In the United States, Growth Realty, which has now changed its name to British Land of America, made a net gain in the quarter year to the end of September after the reorganisation started 18 months ago when British Land acquired a minority interest in the company. British Land has also spent heavily on improving the length of leaseholds on its properties.

Profits from the industrial division were a little better at about £1.1m during the half year and gross rental income was up £1m at £10.1m.

The profit from property and dealing in securities was roughly the same overall, with the fall in returns from trading offset by



better housebuilding and property trading profits.

The group continues to rely heavily on these dealing profits as a source of revenue. Last year they accounted for about 42 per cent of group pretax profits and are likely to be only a little lower this time.

The exposure to dealing revenue is just one of the worrying features at British Land. Another is the apparent lack of direction at the group.

The company has recently entered ventures as hotel building with Comfort Hotels, a new unit trusts group with Mr Brian Banks, partly funding a Finsbury Square development and taking a 15 per cent stake in Dares Estates.

Until some strategy is put forward to explain these and other moves, the shares will continue to look vulnerable, despite trading at a discount to net assets of 39 per cent, which is well above the sector average.

cannot agree on sensible terms.

Stenhouse Holdings has, for many years, been little more than a small investment manager, a Manchester property company. Price: 4.54 million new ordinary shares. Grade-land's net assets of £27,000 at March 31. After takeover, the proposed rights issue, sellers of Grade-land will hold 40.2 per cent of Sheafbank's enlarged ordinary capital. Sheafbank proposes to reduce its issued capital from £1.2m, divided into 25p shares, to £482,000 in 10p shares. Board is conditionally proposing a rights issue of two new ordinary shares for every five shares held at 16p each, and will raise about £308,000 before expenses.

Baileys of Yorkshire: Half-year to October 29, 1983, compared with half-year to September 30, 1982. Figures in £000s. Group turnover 77,306 (60,568). Group profit 529 (519) after all charges, interest 71 (15), depreciation 176 (151) and tax 77 (140). EPS - basic 6.19p (6.07p) and fully diluted 4.39p (4.3p). Interim dividend unchanged at 0.5p.

Memory Computer: Six months to Sept 30, 1983. Figures in Irish £000s. Turnover 4,835 (3,541). Pretax profit 510 (340). Interim payment 1p net (last Oct).

Scotts Restaurant: Half-year to June 30, 1983. Turnover £1.56m (£1.37m). Pretax profit £115,000 (£76,000).

Real Time Control: Half-year to Sept 30, 1983. No interim payment. Directors intend to recommend a net dividend of 2p for full year. Figures in £000s. Turnover 1,754 (1,363). Pretax profit 415 (407).

Belgrave (Blackheath): Half-year to July 31, 1983. Figures in £000s. Turnover 1,317 (1,567). Profit before tax 18 (loss 48).

Alliance Investment: Half-year to Oct 31, 1983. Figures in £000s. Franked income 452 (396). Unfranked income 523 (456). Management expenses and interest 563 (272). Pretax profit 412 (580). Interim payment effectively unchanged at 0.5p a share.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Cifer, the Melksham, Wiltshire, designer and manufacturer of microcomputers and computer terminals, which joined the USM in June, reports pretax profits of £1.352m for the year to September 30, 1983 (1982: £851,000). At the time of issuing its prospectus, Cifer forecast profit before tax would not be less than £1.35m. As declared in the prospectus, the company does not intend recommending a dividend, but still expects to pay one for the current year.

Sheafbank Property Trust has agreed to buy Grade-land Securities, a Manchester property company. Price: 4.54 million new ordinary shares. Grade-land's net assets of £27,000 at March 31. After takeover, the proposed rights issue, sellers of Grade-land will hold 40.2 per cent of Sheafbank's enlarged ordinary capital. Sheafbank proposes to reduce its issued capital from £1.2m, divided into 25p shares, to £482,000 in 10p shares. Board is conditionally proposing a rights issue of two new ordinary shares for every five shares held at 16p each, and will raise about £308,000 before expenses.

Baileys of Yorkshire: Half-year to October 29, 1983, compared with half-year to September 30, 1982. Figures in £000s. Group turnover 77,306 (60,568). Group profit 529 (519) after all charges, interest 71 (15), depreciation 176 (151) and tax 77 (140). EPS - basic 6.19p (6.07p) and fully diluted 4.39p (4.3p). Interim dividend unchanged at 0.5p.

Memory Computer: Six months to Sept 30, 1983. Figures in Irish £000s. Turnover 4,835 (3,541). Pretax profit 510 (340). Interim payment 1p net (last Oct).

Scotts Restaurant: Half-year to June 30, 1983. Turnover £1.56m (£1.37m). Pretax profit £115,000 (£76,000).

Real Time Control: Half-year to Sept 30, 1983. No interim payment. Directors intend to recommend a net dividend of 2p for full year. Figures in £000s. Turnover 1,754 (1,363). Pretax profit 415 (407).

Belgrave (Blackheath): Half-year to July 31, 1983. Figures in £000s. Turnover 1,317 (1,567). Profit before tax 18 (loss 48).

Alliance Investment: Half-year to Oct 31, 1983. Figures in £000s. Franked income 452 (396). Unfranked income 523 (456). Management expenses and interest 563 (272). Pretax profit 412 (580). Interim payment effectively unchanged at 0.5p a share.

Economics Commentary by Tim Congdon

Triumph of the old fogeys

Old fogeyism is not a fashionable basis for the conduct of economic policy. It may be defined as the selection of policy rules because they appear to basic moral intuitions, not because they have intellectual plausibility. Other "isms", like monetarism and Keynesianism, may be very much in contention, but old fogeyism is definitely out.

The late 1950s was perhaps the last time that American policy was determined by old fogey principles. Whatever else he has been accused of, no one has suggested that President Eisenhower was intellectually sophisticated. He chose policies not just because smart-alec advisers had persuaded him that they were clever, but also because they seemed honest and right.

His attitude towards fiscal policy illustrates the point effectively. At a news conference on March 4, 1959, this is how he answered a question on why he attached so much importance to eliminating the budget deficit:

"Well, remember, balancing the budget is not of interest merely to ourselves. Our friends, the nations with whom we trade, the nations that are increasingly using the dollar as a medium of exchange, they are interested in the knowledge that

Table: The USA's trade and current account position, 1975-82. All figs in \$ billion. Columns: Merchandise trade balance, Invisibles balance, of which investment income, Current account. Rows: 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982.

Source: US Department of Commerce

would have greeted it with derision.

Today, President Eisenhower looks increasingly wise and his fiscal fine-tuning, with its many derivatives, increasingly silly. High-powered economic theoreticians are now trying to develop analytically rigorous demonstrations that deficits have very unfavourable long-run effects on the economy. Mr Martin Feldstein, chairman of the US Council of Economic Advisors, has produced some of his original work in this area.

But President Reagan is not interested. A budget deficit of more than \$170 billion is in prospect for the 1984 fiscal year, with perhaps bigger numbers in later years. Despite this, he has made no promises about restoring budgetary equilibrium. Indeed, he has given few signs that he considers the deficit a serious problem.

His indifference in not altogether surprising. When a country runs a large budget deficit it also normally has a large balance-of-payments deficit. The payments deficit then causes currency depreciation and higher inflation.

The President's budget deficit has been associated, in the conventional logic, with a serious deterioration in the American balance of payment. But it has also coincided with a phase of remarkable dollar strength on the foreign exchanges. The dollar's behaviour has been helpful for the control of American inflation rather than the reverse.

The dollar's strength is generally regarded as a puzzle. There is an agreement that heavy capital inflows to the US, have been an essential support. Investment money is being channelled towards the US, financing the current account deficit and enabling the American people to enjoy an armaments boom, an import boom and a consumption boom without paying the bill.

If this continues until the

presidential election next year, President Reagan has nothing to worry about. From a political standpoint, the combination of an overvalued currency and a vast budget deficit is ideal. It should hardly need comment. Let alone emphasis, that the present stance of American financial policy is unsustainable. One method of showing this is to extrapolate the present budget deficit by adding on the inevitable increase in interest payments on the national debt.

The United States government is in a situation, well-known to bankrupts and usurers, where it is borrowing in order to pay interest on its existing debt.

But there is an alternative approach. It is to examine the structure of the United States balance of payments in recent years and to project its evolution.

The current account position as a whole was satisfactory between 1975 and 1982. But several types of transaction contributed to this result. The salient feature is that, while the trade position was sliding steadily for eight years, the current account was rescued by a rising surplus on invisibles. In particular, there was a strong improvement in investment income. This reflected the profits and interest the United States received from the substantial body of foreign assets it built up in the 1950s, 1960s and early 1970s. Without these receipts there would have been a current account deficit of about \$200 billion over the 1975-82 period instead of an approximate balance.

In 1983, the trade gap has widened sharply. The trade deficit is likely to total \$70 billion and the current account deficit almost \$40 billion.

The disturbing possibility now emerging is that the surplus on investment income will be eliminated and replaced by a deficit. The result is simple. Financial policy has become so

deviant and the current account deficit has reached such proportions that foreigners are accumulating many more assets in the United States than Americans are accumulating abroad.

The foreigners expect an income on their investments. If the current account deficit continues, the United States will eventually become a net debtor to other countries.

By the transparency of President Reagan's fiscal programme will be obvious to all. The capital flows in the dollar-denominated assets have been largely motivated by the common perception of the United States as a safe haven in a troubled world. But, if it were to become a significant net debtor, perceptions would change.

The American government would be in an awkward spot. Once the capital inflows stopped, the budget deficit would have to be financed wholly from internal sources instead of to a large extent from abroad. It is difficult to see how, in view of the inadequacy of domestic savings flows, this could be done without magnification of debt - and so return to rapid inflation.

When President Eisenhower wrote his memoirs in 1965 he felt he should respond to complaints that his fiscal policy

Eisenhower looks wiser and fiscal fine-tuning silly

had been too restrictive. In his view, "critics overlooked the inflationary psychology which prevailed during the mid-fifties and which I thought it necessary to defeat. In 1957, for example, consumer prices were rising at an unacceptably high annual rate of 3.2 per cent. Ten years of this could devalue the dollar more than 30 per cent while if the rate accelerated, we would have had an entirely intolerable situation on our hands."

He continued: "The anti-inflation battle is never-ending, though I fear that in 1959 the public was apathetic, at least uniformly, regarding this issue. This attitude caused Winston Churchill when someone asked him during World War Two what the allies were fighting for: 'If we stop,' he replied, 'you will find out.'"

The author is economics partner at stockbroker L. Messel & Co.

Base Lending Rates table listing various banks and their rates for different types of deposits and loans.

Stenhouse Shareholders have until tomorrow afternoon to decide on the merits of one of the City's most peculiar takeover attempts for many years.

Shareholders of Stenhouse Holdings have until tomorrow afternoon to decide on the merits of one of the City's most peculiar takeover attempts for many years.

Shareholders of Stenhouse Holdings have until tomorrow afternoon to decide on the merits of one of the City's most peculiar takeover attempts for many years.

Shareholders of Stenhouse Holdings have until tomorrow afternoon to decide on the merits of one of the City's most peculiar takeover attempts for many years.

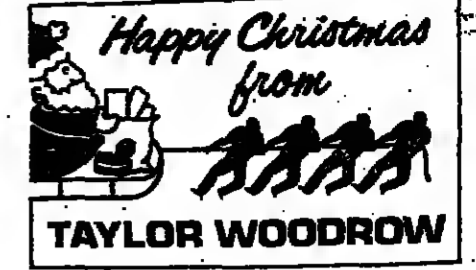
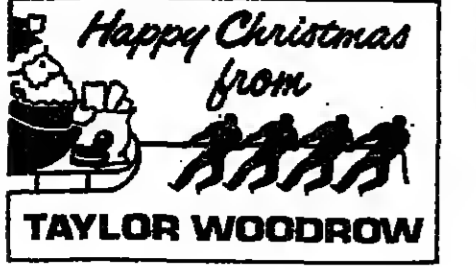
Shareholders of Stenhouse Holdings have until tomorrow afternoon to decide on the merits of one of the City's most peculiar takeover attempts for many years.

Shareholders of Stenhouse Holdings have until tomorrow afternoon to decide on the merits of one of the City's most peculiar takeover attempts for many years.

Shareholders of Stenhouse Holdings have until tomorrow afternoon to decide on the merits of one of the City's most peculiar takeover attempts for many years.

Large financial table containing 'Authorized Units & Insurance Funds' with columns for fund names, bid/offer prices, and other financial data.





MARKET REPORT by Michael Clark

Virani sells Norfolk stake

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Dec 12. Dealings end, Dec 29. Contango Day, Dec 30. Settlement Day, Jan 9.

Hopes that the Virani Group, the privately owned hotel and property company, was planning to use the Norfolk Capital Group, chaired by Lady Joseph the widow of Sir Maxwell Joseph, as the back door for a full public quote have been dashed.

Yesterday it was announced that Virani had sold its entire stake, amounting to 10.5 per cent of the company, through Bank of Credit and Commerce International. Broker Williams de Broe placed the 1.39 million shares for an undisclosed sum less than a month after Mr Nazim Virani, the Ugandan Asian owner, emerged as a major shareholder in Norfolk.

It now looks as though Mr Virani is focusing his interest on Mr Eric Morley's Beilhaven Brewery in which he has bought a 24 per cent stake.

Virani recently paid £4.6m for 21 British Rail hotels and Norfolk, which owns a further 10 hotels, including the Royal Court in Sloane Square and the Norfolk Hotel in Kensington.

Last night, shares of Norfolk, in which Lady Joseph owns about 6 million shares, or 31 per cent of the total, closed unchanged at 39p.

The rest of the equity market maintained its record breaking. There is a growing belief among the institutions that Mr Dair, the sports equipment and packaging group, may soon be the target of a bid. The shares held steady at 26 1/2 yesterday - just 1/2p short of the high. Word is a share could attract a bid as high as 50p.

Mr Ronald Unger, as chairman, chairman, with nearly 6 per cent of the shares, said: "If we are to be bid for, nobody has told me."

run with renewed demand for blue chips showing few signs of being satisfied. The FT index closed at 7.7 up at a new high of 769.8.

Cadbury Schweppes climbed 8p to 17 1/2 reflecting a bullish circular of food manufacturers from brokerickers da Costa. There were also value rumours that Distillers, 6p higher at 22 1/2, was casting an appreciative eye over Tate & Lyle, 8p dearer at 37 1/2.

Only last week a line of 2.75 million shares in Tate & Lyle, believed to be owned by Hansoo Trust, were placed in the market with an unnamed buyer.

One of the biggest gains among the top 30 was in TI Group, 6p higher at 170p still as the appointment of Mr Ronald Unger as chairman of the company was announced.

This will come as good news for broker Laiog & Cruickshank, which has been a buyer of the shares since September. According to Laiog, there is still a "lot of recovery potential" left in the shares. For the current year the analysts are looking for pre tax profits of between £16m and £20m followed by £30m to £35m next year after building up bigger market shares for its engineering and domestic products.

Oil shares were again weak after fears that world oil prices could soon be set to fall. This bid and offer price of the five leading oil shares this week resulting in bigger costs for investors. BP lost 5p at 388p, British 5p at 181p, Shell 10p at 548p and Ultramar 7p at 597p.

Burnham was the only big producer to resist the trend climbing another 5p to 175p on bid speculation.

A rise of 5 points in sterling against the dollar to £1.4190 on the foreign exchange continued in breathe new life into gilt. Dealers reported rises of up to 1/2p in long while at the shorter end the gains were limited to 1/4p where changed.

The Christmas spending spree for the shops was good news for the big retailers where stock shortages added 5p to Comet Group at 313p, 5p to Great Universal Stores 'A' at 620p, 4p to H. Samuel at 133p.

News that Lloyds Bank, unchanged at 542p, had increased its stake in Royal Bank of Scotland, up 28p at 202p, to 21 per cent behind the rest of the banking sector to small improvements. Barclays rose 5p to 492p, Midland 5p to 389p and National Westminster 5p to 649p.

There is a growing belief among the institutions that Mr Dair, the sports equipment and packaging group, may soon be the target of a bid. The shares held steady at 26 1/2 yesterday - just 1/2p short of the high. Word is a share could attract a bid as high as 50p.

Mr Ronald Unger, as chairman, chairman, with nearly 6 per cent of the shares, said: "If we are to be bid for, nobody has told me."

run with renewed demand for blue chips showing few signs of being satisfied. The FT index closed at 7.7 up at a new high of 769.8.

Cadbury Schweppes climbed 8p to 17 1/2 reflecting a bullish circular of food manufacturers from brokerickers da Costa. There were also value rumours that Distillers, 6p higher at 22 1/2, was casting an appreciative eye over Tate & Lyle, 8p dearer at 37 1/2.

Only last week a line of 2.75 million shares in Tate & Lyle, believed to be owned by Hansoo Trust, were placed in the market with an unnamed buyer.

One of the biggest gains among the top 30 was in TI Group, 6p higher at 170p still as the appointment of Mr Ronald Unger as chairman of the company was announced.

This will come as good news for broker Laiog & Cruickshank, which has been a buyer of the shares since September. According to Laiog, there is still a "lot of recovery potential" left in the shares. For the current year the analysts are looking for pre tax profits of between £16m and £20m followed by £30m to £35m next year after building up bigger market shares for its engineering and domestic products.

Oil shares were again weak after fears that world oil prices could soon be set to fall. This bid and offer price of the five leading oil shares this week resulting in bigger costs for investors. BP lost 5p at 388p, British 5p at 181p, Shell 10p at 548p and Ultramar 7p at 597p.

Burnham was the only big producer to resist the trend climbing another 5p to 175p on bid speculation.

A rise of 5 points in sterling against the dollar to £1.4190 on the foreign exchange continued in breathe new life into gilt. Dealers reported rises of up to 1/2p in long while at the shorter end the gains were limited to 1/4p where changed.

The Christmas spending spree for the shops was good news for the big retailers where stock shortages added 5p to Comet Group at 313p, 5p to Great Universal Stores 'A' at 620p, 4p to H. Samuel at 133p.

News that Lloyds Bank, unchanged at 542p, had increased its stake in Royal Bank of Scotland, up 28p at 202p, to 21 per cent behind the rest of the banking sector to small improvements. Barclays rose 5p to 492p, Midland 5p to 389p and National Westminster 5p to 649p.

The Christmas spending spree for the shops was good news for the big retailers where stock shortages added 5p to Comet Group at 313p, 5p to Great Universal Stores 'A' at 620p, 4p to H. Samuel at 133p.

News that Lloyds Bank, unchanged at 542p, had increased its stake in Royal Bank of Scotland, up 28p at 202p, to 21 per cent behind the rest of the banking sector to small improvements. Barclays rose 5p to 492p, Midland 5p to 389p and National Westminster 5p to 649p.

The Christmas spending spree for the shops was good news for the big retailers where stock shortages added 5p to Comet Group at 313p, 5p to Great Universal Stores 'A' at 620p, 4p to H. Samuel at 133p.

News that Lloyds Bank, unchanged at 542p, had increased its stake in Royal Bank of Scotland, up 28p at 202p, to 21 per cent behind the rest of the banking sector to small improvements. Barclays rose 5p to 492p, Midland 5p to 389p and National Westminster 5p to 649p.

The Christmas spending spree for the shops was good news for the big retailers where stock shortages added 5p to Comet Group at 313p, 5p to Great Universal Stores 'A' at 620p, 4p to H. Samuel at 133p.

News that Lloyds Bank, unchanged at 542p, had increased its stake in Royal Bank of Scotland, up 28p at 202p, to 21 per cent behind the rest of the banking sector to small improvements. Barclays rose 5p to 492p, Midland 5p to 389p and National Westminster 5p to 649p.

The Christmas spending spree for the shops was good news for the big retailers where stock shortages added 5p to Comet Group at 313p, 5p to Great Universal Stores 'A' at 620p, 4p to H. Samuel at 133p.

News that Lloyds Bank, unchanged at 542p, had increased its stake in Royal Bank of Scotland, up 28p at 202p, to 21 per cent behind the rest of the banking sector to small improvements. Barclays rose 5p to 492p, Midland 5p to 389p and National Westminster 5p to 649p.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for BRITISH FUNDS and SHORTS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for MEDIUMS and LONGS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN and LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for DOLLAR STOCKS and BANKS AND DISCOUNTS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES and COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for Sterling Spot and Forward.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for Money Market Rates and Other Markets.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for Dollar Spot Rates and Euro-£ Deposits.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for MEDIUMS and LONGS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN and LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for DOLLAR STOCKS and BANKS AND DISCOUNTS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES and COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for Sterling Spot and Forward.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for Money Market Rates and Other Markets.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for Dollar Spot Rates and Euro-£ Deposits.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for BRITISH FUNDS and SHORTS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for MEDIUMS and LONGS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN and LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for DOLLAR STOCKS and BANKS AND DISCOUNTS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES and COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for Sterling Spot and Forward.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for Money Market Rates and Other Markets.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for Dollar Spot Rates and Euro-£ Deposits.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for BRITISH FUNDS and SHORTS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for MEDIUMS and LONGS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN and LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for DOLLAR STOCKS and BANKS AND DISCOUNTS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES and COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for Sterling Spot and Forward.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for Money Market Rates and Other Markets.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for Dollar Spot Rates and Euro-£ Deposits.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for BRITISH FUNDS and SHORTS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for MEDIUMS and LONGS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN and LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for DOLLAR STOCKS and BANKS AND DISCOUNTS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES and COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for Sterling Spot and Forward.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for Money Market Rates and Other Markets.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for Dollar Spot Rates and Euro-£ Deposits.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for BRITISH FUNDS and SHORTS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for MEDIUMS and LONGS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN and LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for DOLLAR STOCKS and BANKS AND DISCOUNTS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES and COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for Sterling Spot and Forward.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for Money Market Rates and Other Markets.

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Includes sections for Dollar Spot Rates and Euro-£ Deposits.

Financial data and market reports including sections for SHIPPING, MINES, FINANCIAL TRUSTS, INSURANCE, INVESTMENT TRUSTS, and PLANTATIONS.

# Stoddard is picking itself off the floor

By Vivien Goldsmith  
Stoddard Holdings, the troubled Scottish carpet manufacturer, is inching its way towards profitability. It cut pre-tax losses in the first six months of the year from more than £1m to £397,000.

Mr Gordon Hay, the chairman, said the company could well be trading in the black by the end of the financial year. But the pre-tax figures would probably still be in the red.

The trading loss for the first half was cut back from £543,000 to £164,000. The group is ahead of the targets set by a three-year recovery plan put into operation by Mr Hay last year.

We are in front of our timetable, so we are hoping to cut it down to 2½ years or something of that order," said Mr Hay.

# Lloyds names money market treasurer

Lloyds Bank: Mr David Turner has been appointed treasurer, responsible for the bank's money-market division. He succeeds Mr Albert Agar who has retired.

Freemans: Mr Anthony Rampton, chairman, will retire after the annual meeting on May 31, next. Mr John Broome has been made a director from January 1. He will be deputy chairman until taking over Mr Rampton as chairman on June 1, next.

Rothmans International: Mr Jeremy Campbell succeeds Mr Leslie Sari as secretary from January 1.

Charterhall: Mr Maxwell F. Shephard and Mr John A. Brimley are being appointed directors from January 1. Mr Julius Levinkind is retiring as a director but will continue as a consultant. Mr Robert C. O. Hellyer becomes secretary. Mr Keith R. Holder is being

# The magnificent young man on the high-flying 10-metre board

One of the more spectacular moments of British sporting achievement this year took place almost unobserved in the past week. Christopher Snode, possibly our best ever diver, performed for the first time a feat unique in his sport, which may help him gain an Olympic medal.

For a year Snode has been preparing on a dry board in Florida gymnasium, a front one and half somersault with four twists. It has taken a year, working with a controlling harness on a pulley with his American coach Steve McFarland, to gain the millimetres of refinement and compact control of his body which would permit an extra twist to the three he had already mastered.

The potential danger is almost as great as a trapeze artist's. With the body entering the water at 35 to 40 miles an hour, any rotational error can increase the impact of head or legs to 60 to 70 mph, rupturing an eardrum or dislocating a shoulder.

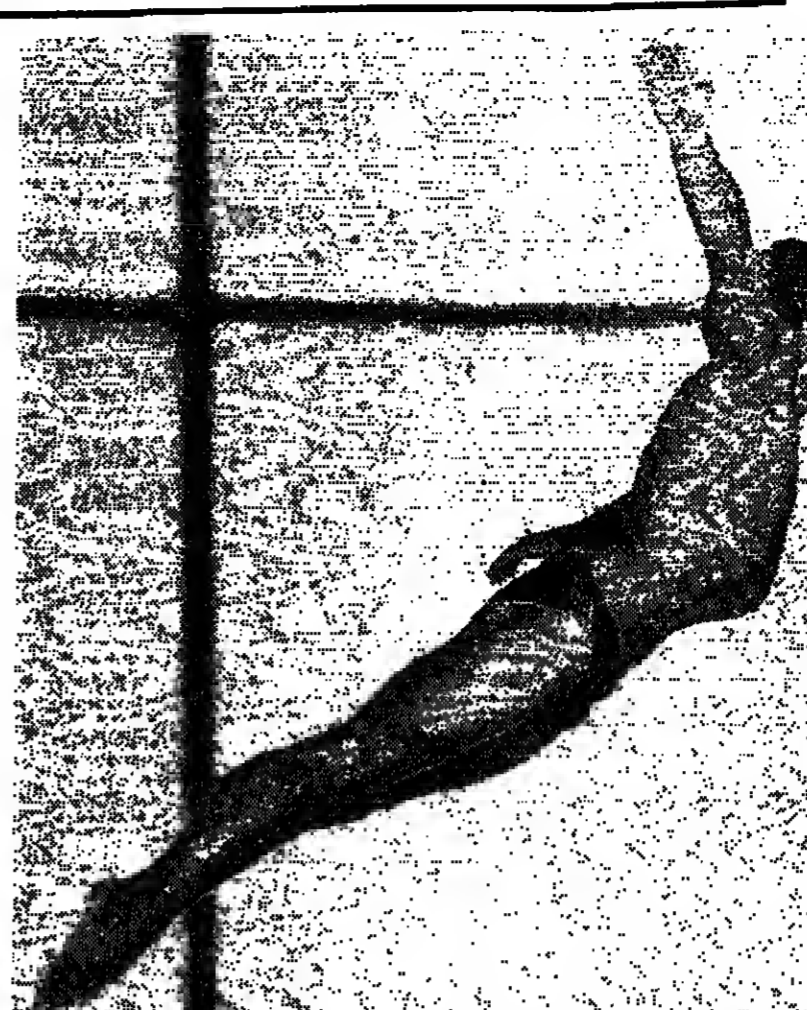
There were two reasons for returning home for a week from Miami, where he is sponsored primarily by the Sports Aid Foundation: to see his parents

before they went away on holiday and to utilize the compressed air cushion available at the Crystal Palace diving pool in overcoming the psychological barrier of his first "wet" attempt from over 30 feet.

The crucial factor is for the diver to reduce his physical size as much as possible because the centrifugal force of each twist tends to throw the limbs outwards. It took professional circus acrobats 30 years to perfect the quadruple trapeze somersault.

"It took me three hours to get psyched up for the attempt, for something no one has ever seen before," Snode said. "It is a strange feeling at the back of the 'tower', before the run-up, you feel vulnerable when you can't see the wind rushing past your ears and then you are tumbling and turning, finally trying to get your hands together before you hit the water like a cyclist running into a wall.

Snode in a don't-forget-the-diver pose at Crystal Palace



Snode in a don't-forget-the-diver pose at Crystal Palace

he smiles; though he thinks diving "needs a bit of bottle", he denies that it is dangerous and offers somebody else's maxim - "it needs a crazy type of sanity".

Brian Phelps, star of the 1960s, is remembered as Britain's best from 10 metres; but Snode excels at both the 10-metre and three-metre spring-board. If there were a combined medal, as in gymnastics, he would be a strong contender to Greg Louganis, of the United States, the double world champion of 1982, when Snode was eighth in both as well as Commonwealth Games gold medalist. In this year's European he was fourth (10 metres) and third (springboard).

A particularly gauche piece of publicity happened last week when Snode's performance in front of the public caused him embarrassment with his clumsy talk of finance, but Snode, returning

# Australia give their rivals leeway

By Barry Pickhall  
The first Australian defence of the America's Cup, won last September by Alan Bond's controversial wing-kneed challenger Australia II, will start in February 1987 over an Olympic course set 16 kilometres to the north of Fremantle, in Western Australia.

This was confirmed earlier this week by Peter Danielli, Commodore of the Royal Perth Yacht Club, holders of the trophy. He added that the club has received 12 metre yachts as the defending team.

Danielli also announced that the deadline for challenge entries has been extended from January 31 to April 30 1984, following pleas from American syndicates that more time was needed to raise the \$2,000,000 (\$6m) necessary to mount individual challenges.

Six US syndicates have expressed interest in sending challengers to Perth, including the New York Yacht Club, whose members are still smarting over their defeat in the 132 year history of the Cup. Other American challengers could come from the Yacht Clubs of San Diego, Long Beach, St. Francis, Waikiki in Hawaii, and New Bedford in Massachusetts.

Our foreign interest has been shown by syndicates in New York, Peter de Savary's British-Victoria group, and others in Canada, France, Denmark, Germany, Holland, New Zealand and Japan. The problems with some of these challengers, however, is raising a multi-million pound sponsorship deal, necessary to mount a successful campaign at a venue one point six times the size of the last outpost of the western world.

Western Australia has a population of only 1.2m, and without the presence of live television coverage in the Americas and elsewhere, the trials and final race, few companies can see a worthwhile return being gained from their contributions.

By contrast, interest in Australia is intense, with separate syndicate groups being set up in Queensland, Victoria, Adelaide and Perth, most of whom have approached Australia II's designer, Ben Lexcen, to produce similar wing-kneed designs for them.

Peter de Savary is not expected to announce whether he will challenge again for Britain until returning from a business trip to Perth next month.

With two races now completed in the Southern Cross Cup being sailed off Sydney, Australia, the British team have improved their overall standing to fourth place to second (John Robertson writes). The three British yachts were all well placed in the one hundred and eighty mile short offshore race which finished yesterday.

Fanda, Peter Whorby's yacht, and Indulgence, skippered by Graham Walker, were fourth and fifth across the finishing line, only eighteen seconds apart. However on corrected time Fanda dropped to tenth, while Indulgence slipped to second (John Robertson writes). The third yacht in the team, Jade, which races more than two feet less than Indulgence, crossed the line five-tenth, but improved to eleventh when the handicaps were worked out.

The outstanding team in this race were the New Zealanders, whose boats Pacific Sundancer and Gronimo took first and second places on corrected time. Lifting their position to second place to a healthy thirty nine point lead, the third yacht in the New Zealand team, Exador, was eight on corrected time.

With two more thirty three mile races around Olympic triangles left before the final points scoring Sydney to Hobart race, the British have time to catch the New Zealanders, but the task will not be easy. The New Zealand boats are currently out of the water. The British have been making a few poor tactical decisions. However, the 630 mile Sydney to Hobart race has frequently been the decider in this series, with the weather in the Bass Strait often both changeable and severe.

SOORE (After two races) New Zealand 208 pts; Britain 167 pts; Papua New Guinea 85 pts.

# TENNIS Dowdeswell in Cup team

Colin Dowdeswell will make his first international appearance for Britain when he competes in the King's Cup in Essen, West Germany, from January 16 to 22. Dowdeswell, who has moved more than 40 places up the world rankings to 51 following a successful tour recently in South Africa, was chosen yesterday, as were Christopher Mottram and Jeremy Bates, the young Surrey player who is believed to be the fourth player will be added to the team later.

Dowdeswell, aged 28, was born in Wimbledon, but was brought up in Rhodesia and played in the Davis Cup for Rhodesia before he became Zimbabwe. For the last few years he has lived in Switzerland, and earlier this year won the Swiss national championship. He was clearly ranked by the International Tennis Federation to play for Britain.

Paul Hutchins, the British team manager, said: "His presence will obviously strengthen our team. Although Mottram was still stopped playing international Grand Prix tournaments, I still feel that his standard is good enough to play in such team matches, providing he is keen to play before he is added to the team."

The King's Cup has a new format this year. Instead of matches being played with home and away legs, the whole competition will be concentrated over one week. Britain will play in the first division alongside West Germany, the holders, Russia, Sweden, Czechoslovakia and Iceland.

SANTIAGO (Reuters) - Joao Filo will be appointed Chile's Davis Cup coach for next year's American zone competition. Filo was replaced by Luis Araya, who was defeated 4-1 by Britain in October in a play-off to earn the right to enter the championship competition in 1984. Chile will meet Colombia in March.

# APPOINTMENTS

appointed a director of Charterhall Oil. Mr Alan T. Morton retires from the board of Charterhall Oil after his appointment as operating director of Charterhall Australia, the group's recently acquired Australian listed company.

Haden Young: Mr Derek Gillingham becomes managing director on January 1. He was previously deputy managing director and now succeeds Mr Geoffrey Clarke who is retiring.

Mr Ellis Davenport, Mr Tooy Northcott, Mr Fred Perryman and Mr Carl Wheldrake, at present regional directors, have been appointed assistant managing directors with special responsibilities for individual operating regions of the company.

# COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES		T/O	N/L
Rubber in Cg per tonnes			
Coffee, Robusta in 50kg	1100-1150		4500
Cocoa - all in US\$ per metric ton.			
RUBBER			
Jan/Mch	847-89		3055-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		3140-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		3240-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		3340-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		3440-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		3540-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		3640-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		3740-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		3840-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		3940-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		4040-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		4140-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		4240-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		4340-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		4440-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		4540-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		4640-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		4740-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		4840-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		4940-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		5040-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		5140-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		5240-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		5340-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		5440-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		5540-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		5640-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		5740-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		5840-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		5940-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		6040-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		6140-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		6240-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		6340-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		6440-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		6540-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		6640-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		6740-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		6840-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		6940-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		7040-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		7140-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		7240-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		7340-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		7440-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		7540-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		7640-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		7740-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		7840-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		7940-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		8040-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		8140-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		8240-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		8340-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		8440-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		8540-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		8640-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		8740-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		8840-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		8940-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		9040-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		9140-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		9240-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		9340-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		9440-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		9540-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		9640-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		9740-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		9840-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		9940-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		10040-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		10140-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		10240-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		10340-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		10440-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		10540-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		10640-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		10740-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		10840-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		10940-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		11040-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		11140-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		11240-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		11340-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		11440-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		11540-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		11640-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		11740-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		11840-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		11940-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		12040-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		12140-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		12240-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		12340-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		12440-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		12540-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		12640-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		12740-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		12840-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		12940-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		13040-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		13140-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		13240-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		13340-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		13440-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		13540-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		13640-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		13740-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		13840-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		13940-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		14040-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		14140-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		14240-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		14340-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		14440-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		14540-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		14640-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		14740-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		14840-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		14940-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		15040-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		15140-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		15240-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		15340-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		15440-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		15540-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		15640-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		15740-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		15840-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		15940-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		16040-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		16140-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		16240-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		16340-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		16440-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		16540-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		16640-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		16740-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		16840-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		16940-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		17040-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		17140-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		17240-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		17340-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		17440-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		17540-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		17640-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		17740-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		17840-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		17940-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		18040-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		18140-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		18240-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		18340-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		18440-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		18540-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		18640-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		18740-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		18840-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		18940-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		19040-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		19140-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		19240-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		19340-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		19440-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		19540-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		19640-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		19740-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		19840-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		19940-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		20040-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		20140-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		20240-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		20340-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		20440-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		20540-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		20640-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		20740-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		20840-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		20940-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		21040-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		21140-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		21240-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		21340-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		21440-50
Apr/Jun	850-90		21540-50
Jul/Sep	850-90		21640-50
Oct/Dec	850-90		21740-50
Jan/Mch	850-90		21840-50
Apr/Jun	850-90</		

Hill-Wood is holding on despite the draught at the top of the tree

The chairman sticks to his Gunners

Peter Hill-Wood, Arsenal's chairman, yesterday repudiated a rumour that he would be leaving the club in the wake of his manager, Terry Neill, whom he sacked last Friday.



Hill-Wood: no crisis

die in the job, as my grandfather and father did, even though I have great loyalty to the traditions they set and I certainly do not intend to stand down at present."

RUGBY UNION



Hoping to shake off injuries in 1984: Wheeler, Melville and Carleton, optimistic of an early return to the first team.

Carleton returns to prove fitness to England selectors

John Carleton, the England right wing who has not played since being injured against New Zealand on November 19, returns to action on Friday.

European match will produce one winner and two losers

Split Yugoslavia (Agencies) - The fate of three nations hangs in the balance when Yugoslavia meet Bulgaria in a European Championship qualifying match.

Another European cup for Aberdeen

in an unduly but never exciting first half, always more passive than positive.

Unwelcome rain in Spain

Seville (Reuters) - Spain's slender hopes of scoring the 11-goal victory over Malta today that would give them a place in the 1984 European Championship finals have been dealt a further blow by the weather.

Swansea fail to tempt Appleton from Hull

Colin Appleton, the Hull City manager, has turned down an offer to take over at Swansea City which would have nearly doubled his salary.

Favourites unchanged The school that fulfilled its half-term promise

The South of Scotland have announced an unchanged team for the match against Glasgow at Hawick on Saturday which will be the Scottish Inter-District championship.

Brazilians' World Cup is stolen

Rio de Janeiro, Renter - The Jules Rimet World Cup was stolen from the headquarters of the Brazilian Football Association on Monday night.

Keegan back at Anfield before the big screen

Kevin Keegan's return to Anfield will be shown live on television. The Professional Footballers Association and the FA have reached agreement on the cash now which threatened to block the third round FA Cup tie between Liverpool and Newcastle United.

Kelly praises League's progress

Football will still be Britain's major spectator sport when the League celebrates its centenary in 1988.

Hartlepool are given a deadline Daring Skelton triumphs

Hartlepool United have been given a month by Hartlepool Council to pay rent arrears of more than £7,000 for their Victoria Ground.

Tennis climbs the league

One of the fringe benefits of open tennis and the game's consequent expansion as a segment of the world-wide entertainment business is that distinguished writers have been attracted to the circuit in numbers that, 20 years ago, would have been unthinkable.

A rest then a recall for Douglas

England will be without middleweight Rod Douglas for their amateur international match against Ireland at Milton Keynes on January 6.

An angler's tangled life

That eminent sporting journal, The Field, has warned us that we are likely to have a record sea trout on our books fairly soon.

Table with sports results: AMERICAN FOOTBALL, WEST, EAST, NATIONAL LEAGUE, ICE HOCKEY, NORDIC SKIING, MONDAY'S RESULTS, BOXING, FISHING.

SKIING

Stenmark's Cup ambition lifted by another victory

Madonna di Campiglio, (Reuter) - The triple World cup winner Ingemar Stenmark of Sweden returned to the scene of his first World Cup win 1974 to score a clear victory in the slalom race here yesterday...

Zoller, high number starter confirmed his return to fitness after a ligament injury last season by holding on to his place despite almost running into a gate near the bottom of the course...

combination with his win in the Val Gardena super giant slalom on Monday. The young Swiss, clearly feeling the pressure to produce a good result, skied off to the first leg while trying too hard to make up time lost in the early stages...



Stenmark: fastest man on two legs

Notable absentees were the American twins Phil and Steve Mahre, who returned home last week to prepare for their traditional burst of form at the end of January...

Table with 2 columns: Football fixtures and Skiing conditions. Includes teams like Arsenal, Liverpool and ski conditions for various locations like Arosa, Igls, Isola 2000.

Table with 2 columns: Motor racing results. Lists drivers like Nigel Mansell, Eddie Cheever and their respective race results.

There will be no excuses, there are no unknowns and we have to deliver. That was the message of Peter Warr, general manager of John Player Team Lotus, at the unveiling in Paris yesterday of the Lotus Grand Prix challenger for 1984, the JPS 95T.

The 1984 Lotus has a leaner look

By John Blunsdeo. year looks superficially similar to the 94T's they used in the latter part of this year. However, they are very different beneath the skin.

Part of the size reduction has been brought about by the restriction in the maximum fuel tankage to 220 litres, but the much newer packaging of the latest version of the Renault turbo-charged engine, with its turbo-chargers and intercoolers mounted vertically, has also contributed to the leaner look.

Nigel Mansell, frustrated at the team's lack of wins this year, was full of enthusiasm yesterday. "Peter Warr has put a great package together for 1984 and Gerard Ducrocq's new design looks like it will be a winner. He has taken full advantage of the new fuel regulations and he has worked hard on the aerodynamics."

Olympic couple seek out the climate of success

Malcolm and Sarah Cooper, the husband and wife international shooting team, will set out on Friday on a 26,000 mile round trip in search of a combination of intense heat, dust and wind.



The couple first met at a shooting competition in 1970. The couple first met at a shooting competition in 1970. The couple first met at a shooting competition in 1970.

She said that she had looked at a number of locations, but Australia came out top. "Apart from the climate, it was important to go to an English-speaking country because of all the questions that are raised when you are carrying rifles."

her husband, works in a sports goods company. "Thankfully, British Airways are helping with excess baggage."

positions and the 10 metre air rifle, 40 shots standing. "I am very excited about the prospect of competing in the games for the first time," said Mrs Cooper.

RACING

Burrough Hill Lad can underline his Chepstow chance

By Michael Phillips. Today's meeting at Lingfield Park was given the go-ahead yesterday after the stewards had inspected the course midway through the afternoon. However, they added the proviso that it would only take place if there was no heavy rain during the night. So, clearly the meeting rests in the lap of the gods and so does the race at Worcester where there will be an inspection at 7.30 this morning.

Burrough Hill Lad's only race this season was over hurdles at Nottingham earlier this month and Mrs Pitman is understandably keen for him to jump fences at racing pace again before his important date at Chepstow. A leg injury restricted Burrough Hill Lad to just three races last season.

Lingfield Park. GOING: chase course, soft, hurdles, heavy. Total double: 1.30, 2.30, Treble: 1.0, 2.0, 3.0. 12.30 CHRISTMAS CRACKER HURDLE (Div 1: 3-y-o: £1,095: 2m) (21 runners)

Edward Hanmer Memorial Steeplechase at Haydock. In that case he should be hard to beat this afternoon. If Lingfield is on, Francombe can also win the Plum Pudding Steeplechase on Observe at the expense of the course specialist, Straight Jocelyn, whose seven victories there include one in this same race 12 months ago.

Saxon Farm hunt. Stan Mellor's hurdler, Saxon Farm, may not run this season, and will miss the Champion Hurdle. Winner of this year's Triumph Hunt, Saxon Farm injured himself at the weekend.

Sangster race approved. The Irish Turf Club approved a plan by a syndicate led by Robert Sangster to sponsor a £250,000 race at Phoenix Park next July. After a meeting attended by Vincent O'Brien, the trainer, and John Magnier, the syndicate owner, both representing the sponsoring syndicate, and Jonathan Arwa and Paddy Ticho, respectively chief executive and manager at Phoenix Park, the club announced that they were "anxious to facilitate the running of the proposed race and will endeavour to obtain group status for it."

Folkstone results. Goings: chase course, soft, hurdles, heavy. 12.15 ALDINGTON CHASE (Div 1: 4-y-o: £300: 2m) (11 runners)



Here's mud in your eye: apprentice Andrew Small depicts racing's less glamorous side after pulling up in the Folkstone seller (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

Worcester. GOING: Soft. 12.15 CHRISTMAS CHASE (Div 1: novices: £1,214: 3m) (13 runners)

12.45 TURKEY HURDLE (Div 1: novices: £690: 2m) (22 runners)

1.15 CHRISTMAS CHASE (Div 1: novices: £1,214: 3m) (13 runners)

1.45 CHAMPAGNE HURDLE (Selling: 4-y-o: £573: 2m) (21 runners)

2.15 SAINT NICHOLAS CHASE (Handicap: £2,026: 3m) (16 runners)

2.45 HOLLY AND IVY CHASE (Handicap: conditional jockeys: £1,027: 2m) (14 runners)

3.15 TURKEY HURDLE (Div 1: novices: £690: 2m) (22 runners)

Worcester selections. By Michael Phillips. 12.15 Trust the King, 12.45 Hazy Sunset, 1.15 Speedy Bee, 1.45 Generous Bid, 3.15 Bramblings.

Ludlow results. 12.30 BURGUNDY CHASE (Div 1: novices: £240: 2m)

Lingfield selections. By Michael Phillips. 12.30 Princess Henham, 1.0 The Totum, 1.30 Burgos, 2.0 Observe, 2.30 Burrough Hill Lad, 3.0 Sarah's Venture.

Lingfield Park. 12.30 Princess Henham, 1.0 The Totum, 1.30 Burgos, 2.0 Observe, 2.30 Burrough Hill Lad, 3.0 Sarah's Venture.

Lingfield Park. 12.30 Princess Henham, 1.0 The Totum, 1.30 Burgos, 2.0 Observe, 2.30 Burrough Hill Lad, 3.0 Sarah's Venture.

Lingfield Park. 12.30 Princess Henham, 1.0 The Totum, 1.30 Burgos, 2.0 Observe, 2.30 Burrough Hill Lad, 3.0 Sarah's Venture.

Lingfield Park. 12.30 Princess Henham, 1.0 The Totum, 1.30 Burgos, 2.0 Observe, 2.30 Burrough Hill Lad, 3.0 Sarah's Venture.

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, possibly a page number or publication information.

Oxford University Awards

The following awards have been made:

- WOLSTONHOLE COLLEGE: Mr. J. W. Nicholson, Mr. J. W. Nicholson...
MAGDALEN COLLEGE: Mr. J. W. Nicholson, Mr. J. W. Nicholson...
TRINITY COLLEGE: Mr. J. W. Nicholson, Mr. J. W. Nicholson...
ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE: Mr. J. W. Nicholson, Mr. J. W. Nicholson...

Residential Property/Christopher Warman
Conveyancing: a DIY way

There is a pre-Christmas lull in the housing market...
The National Association of Conveyancers, set up five years ago to represent non-solicitor conveyancers...

The kit is based on 'The Conveyancing Fraud'...
Members are fully covered
Mr David Ashford, association chairman...

only its qualified solicitors satisfy both criteria...
The National Association of Conveyancers, set up five years ago...

Members are fully covered
Mr David Ashford, association chairman, who acknowledges that he failed the Law Society exams several times...

Country Property

Humberts
Wiltshire
2 acres
Etchinghampton. Devizes 3 miles. Pewsey 7 miles.

North of Thames
Dedington Middx.
Spacious flat, top floor floor, modern block...

York House
36-38 Queens Gate W2
Luxury new flats

Chelsea View Today
2 new covered balconies
both with 62 year leases...

West Dulwich
Immaculate Victorian property
Three bed, three bath, three cars...

Secretary to Director
PIMLICO up to £10,480
A vacancy has arisen for a first class Secretary to work for the Director of Legal Services...

PA SECRETARY
We are a professional consultancy involved in oil and gas exploration...

BRITISH GAS
THE "SHELL" TRANSPORT AND TRADING COMPANY, P.L.C.
Notice is hereby given that a balance of the register will be struck on Wednesday, 20th January, 1984...

YOUNG SECRETARY FINE ART £5,500
The company recruited in the first year a young man who was educated secretary with a minimum 3 months secretarial experience...

PERSONNEL OFFICER £9,500
Personnel Officer, 30-40ish, able to coordinate W.P. facility as well as being completely responsible for the day to day running of the Personnel Department...

INDUSTRIALIST
PA/SECRETARY c.£10,000
Near St. James's Park
Managing Director of large Group requires first class PA/Secretary at prestige headquarters office...

ADVERTISING £2,000
PA/Secretary (25+) for young MD of successful, go-ahead agency. Excellent first class private schooling experience. Intensive W.P. and sense of fun, lots of organising and top class contact. Excellent career opportunity.

ARE YOU FREE NOW?
Glamorous position for an experienced Secretary with PA skills as Directors Secretary for an International Development Company...

La crème de la crème

Secretary to Company Secretary
Marks & Spencer have a vacancy at their Head Office in Baker Street for a Secretary to work for their Company Secretary who is also the Chief Accountant...
Charles of the Ritz
YVES SAINT LAURENT
SECRETARY/PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO COMMERCIAL DIRECTOR
Required for prestigious cosmetics and fragrance company. Candidates will have excellent skills in shorthand and typing, and considerable administrative ability...

HEALTH CLUB £7,000
The Directors of the health club in W.P. need a first class Secretary aged 35-50 to help them keep things running smoothly...

Senior PA
Capable audio secretary (non smoking) for very busy map publishing with extensive contacts...

DEATHS
POOLEY - On December 18th, Dr. John Pooley, aged 78 years, died at home...

BIRTHS
BARNHAM - On December 17th, a baby boy was born to Mrs. J. Barnham...

MARRIAGES
WHITEHEAD KELLY - On Saturday 17th December at St. Michael's Church...

DEATHS
BLACKWELL - On Sunday, December 18th, 1983, peacefully at Loughton...

DEATHS
COOPER - On December 19th, peacefully at home, aged 82 years...

DEATHS
HARRIS - On Tuesday, December 20th, peacefully at home, aged 82 years...

DEATHS
HARRIS - On Tuesday, December 20th, peacefully at home, aged 82 years...

DEATHS
HARRIS - On Tuesday, December 20th, peacefully at home, aged 82 years...

DEATHS
HARRIS - On Tuesday, December 20th, peacefully at home, aged 82 years...

DEATHS
POOLEY - On December 18th, Dr. John Pooley, aged 78 years, died at home...

BIRTHS
BARNHAM - On December 17th, a baby boy was born to Mrs. J. Barnham...

MARRIAGES
WHITEHEAD KELLY - On Saturday 17th December at St. Michael's Church...

DEATHS
BLACKWELL - On Sunday, December 18th, 1983, peacefully at Loughton...

DEATHS
COOPER - On December 19th, peacefully at home, aged 82 years...

DEATHS
HARRIS - On Tuesday, December 20th, peacefully at home, aged 82 years...

DEATHS
HARRIS - On Tuesday, December 20th, peacefully at home, aged 82 years...

DEATHS
HARRIS - On Tuesday, December 20th, peacefully at home, aged 82 years...

DEATHS
HARRIS - On Tuesday, December 20th, peacefully at home, aged 82 years...

ANNOUNCEMENTS
HELP ME! BRIDGE THE GAP
MIRA is a family of 1,100 elderly people in 25 residential homes...

ANNOUNCEMENTS
UNWANTED DOGS
CHRISTMAS DINNER FUND
HELP ME! BRIDGE THE GAP

ANNOUNCEMENTS
HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS
LOW COST FLIGHTS
MONTAGNA SKI

ANNOUNCEMENTS
FLIGHT BARGAINS
AIRLINK
NEW YEAR IN ITALY

ANNOUNCEMENTS
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS
MONTAGNA SKI
FLIGHT BARGAINS

ANNOUNCEMENTS
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS
MONTAGNA SKI
FLIGHT BARGAINS

ANNOUNCEMENTS
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS
MONTAGNA SKI
FLIGHT BARGAINS

ANNOUNCEMENTS
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS
MONTAGNA SKI
FLIGHT BARGAINS

ANNOUNCEMENTS
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS
MONTAGNA SKI
FLIGHT BARGAINS

PERSONAL COLUMNS
HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS
BLADON LINES
THE MAGIC ISLANDS OF CORSICA AND CORSU

PERSONAL COLUMNS
HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS
BLADON LINES
THE MAGIC ISLANDS OF CORSICA AND CORSU

PERSONAL COLUMNS
HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS
BLADON LINES
THE MAGIC ISLANDS OF CORSICA AND CORSU

PERSONAL COLUMNS
HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS
BLADON LINES
THE MAGIC ISLANDS OF CORSICA AND CORSU

PERSONAL COLUMNS
HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS
BLADON LINES
THE MAGIC ISLANDS OF CORSICA AND CORSU

PERSONAL COLUMNS
HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS
BLADON LINES
THE MAGIC ISLANDS OF CORSICA AND CORSU

PERSONAL COLUMNS
HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS
BLADON LINES
THE MAGIC ISLANDS OF CORSICA AND CORSU

PERSONAL COLUMNS
HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS
BLADON LINES
THE MAGIC ISLANDS OF CORSICA AND CORSU

PERSONAL COLUMNS
HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS
BLADON LINES
THE MAGIC ISLANDS OF CORSICA AND CORSU

WINTER SPORTS
SKIING MERIBEL
Last minute availability, hotel and lift passes only, Dec 23 to 28...

WINTER SPORTS
SKIING MERIBEL
Last minute availability, hotel and lift passes only, Dec 23 to 28...

WINTER SPORTS
SKIING MERIBEL
Last minute availability, hotel and lift passes only, Dec 23 to 28...

WINTER SPORTS
SKIING MERIBEL
Last minute availability, hotel and lift passes only, Dec 23 to 28...

WINTER SPORTS
SKIING MERIBEL
Last minute availability, hotel and lift passes only, Dec 23 to 28...

WINTER SPORTS
SKIING MERIBEL
Last minute availability, hotel and lift passes only, Dec 23 to 28...

WINTER SPORTS
SKIING MERIBEL
Last minute availability, hotel and lift passes only, Dec 23 to 28...

WINTER SPORTS
SKIING MERIBEL
Last minute availability, hotel and lift passes only, Dec 23 to 28...

WINTER SPORTS
SKIING MERIBEL
Last minute availability, hotel and lift passes only, Dec 23 to 28...

LEGAL NOTICES
THE COMPANIES ACTS 1948
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 127 of the Companies Act, 1948...

LEGAL NOTICES
THE COMPANIES ACTS 1948
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 127 of the Companies Act, 1948...

LEGAL NOTICES
THE COMPANIES ACTS 1948
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 127 of the Companies Act, 1948...

LEGAL NOTICES
THE COMPANIES ACTS 1948
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 127 of the Companies Act, 1948...

LEGAL NOTICES
THE COMPANIES ACTS 1948
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 127 of the Companies Act, 1948...

LEGAL NOTICES
THE COMPANIES ACTS 1948
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 127 of the Companies Act, 1948...

LEGAL NOTICES
THE COMPANIES ACTS 1948
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 127 of the Companies Act, 1948...

LEGAL NOTICES
THE COMPANIES ACTS 1948
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 127 of the Companies Act, 1948...

LEGAL NOTICES
THE COMPANIES ACTS 1948
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 127 of the Companies Act, 1948...

Entertainments
BARRACAN: 01-426 8756
ROYAL SHAKESPEARE
MUSICALS: THE WINDS OF AVON
THEATRES: THE SLEEPING PRINCE
CONCERTS: ELLEN GREENE
SHORT LETS: 2, 2 1/2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100

IMPERIAL CANCER RESEARCH FUND
World Leaders in Cancer Research

CHRISTMAS AUCTION
at BONHAMS
TODAY 10.30 am & 2.30 pm

DAVID NIVEN
Has so many others - died of the terrible and progressive Motor Neurone Disease

YOUR HELP CAN MEAN HOPE FOR A BLIND CHILD
For many blind children, the only hope for a full and happy life is through specialised education and training.

Signed RUSSELL FLINTS
Tel: Fareham 665852

RESISTA CARPETS
Wool Event

AUSTIN REED
Five Floors of Christmas

CHRISTMAS & AUTUMN BREAKS
Spend Xmas/New Year in a Luxurious Garden Apartment

NATHAN WILSON
THE LETTING PEOPLE
60 RUSSELL HILL
HAMPSHIRE
01794 1161

Gascogne-Pees
GIVENCHY 2nd SWV
Very pretty house with 2 beds, study, living room, kitchen, bathroom, garage, garden, etc.

CHRISTMAS & AUTUMN BREAKS
Spend Xmas/New Year in a Luxurious Garden Apartment

CHRISTMAS & AUTUMN BREAKS
Spend Xmas/New Year in a Luxurious Garden Apartment

CHRISTMAS & AUTUMN BREAKS
Spend Xmas/New Year in a Luxurious Garden Apartment



Rate Bill faces big test in Lords

Continued from page 1 Councils, which represents many such authorities...

The Association of County Councils, also led by Conservatives, said: "The case has still not been made for such unprecedented powers..."

The Bill gives ministers the power to rewrite from year to year the vaguely defined criteria on which they will pick councils for capping...

Dr John Cunningham, Labour spokesman on the Environment, pledged yesterday that a Labour government would repeal the legislation...

He added: "For the first time since 1601, Whitehall will have dictatorial powers over every local authority in the land..."

Israeli aircraft watch Arafat armada sail out

Continued from page 1 loyalists before their evacuation (Christopher Walker writes)...

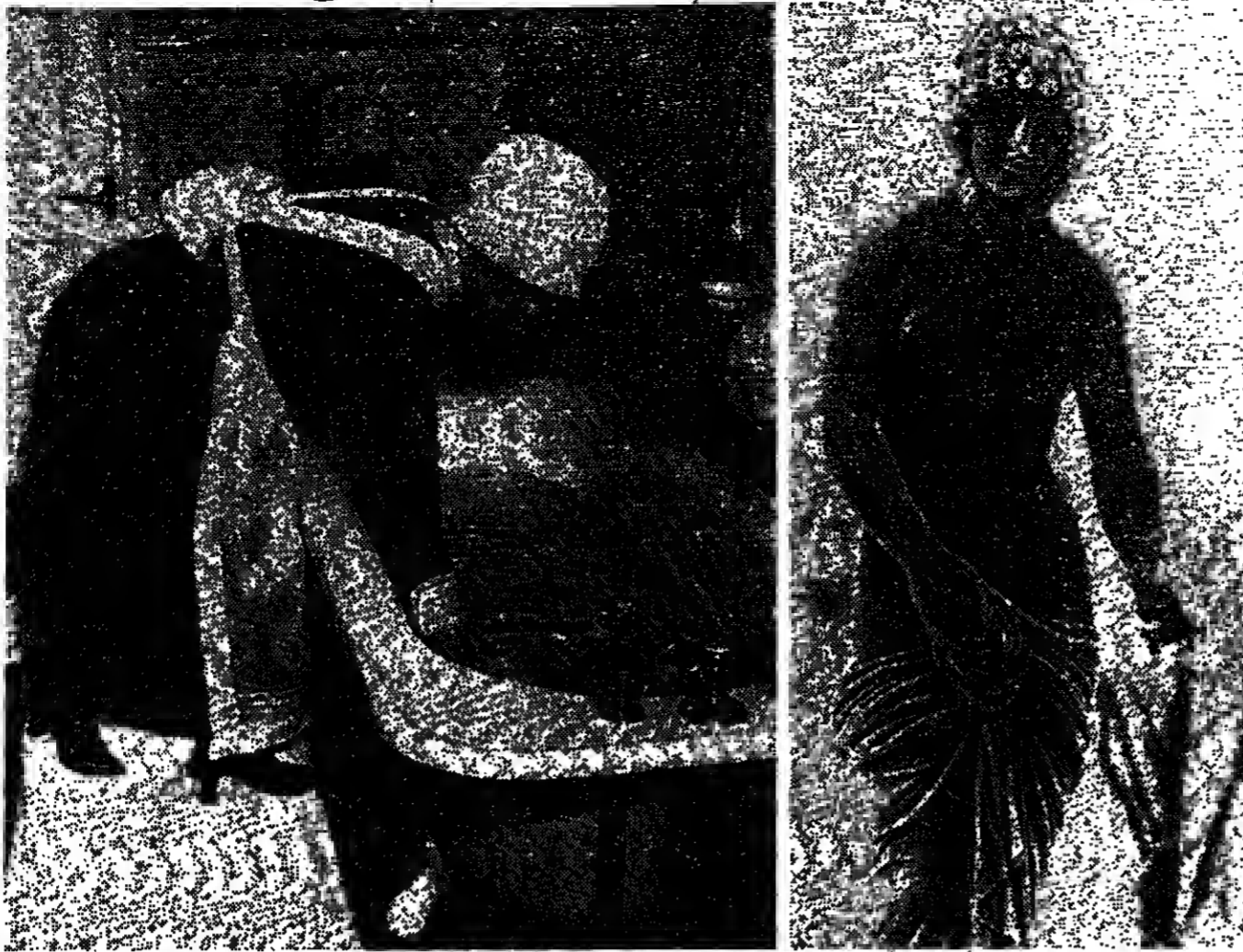
It claimed that, despite US pressure, no formal guarantees of safe passage had been given to either Greece or France...

A senior official told The Times: "We are satisfied that by our actions we got over the point that Mr Arafat was leaving by our favour, and not from any form of divine justice..."

"The purpose of our policy was to demonstrate that the whole question of safe passage for such terrorists is one that is open to discussion at all times..."

Arafat's Odyssey, page 6 Leading article, page 13

Photographer of rare imagination



The death of Bill Brandt in London at the age of 79 has robbed the world of the acknowledged master of twentieth century British photography...

Brandt brought to documentary and nude photography a rare imagination and intelligence. The high point of his documentary work was reached during the thirties...

Brandt's camera ranged from the East End poor to the inhabitants of fashionable London and set a new standard for documentary photography...

The Times's selection from his work covers the late thirties to the early forties. A parlourmaid prepares a bath before dinner...

Obituary, page 14

Police trace dealer who sold bomb car

Continued from page 1 demonstrations in the East End of London and in Trafalgar Square...

Scotland Yard said that it recognized the right to free speech but "during these troublesome days it would be helpful if potential demonstrators advised us of their plans..."

CND said that the demonstrations were spontaneous after news that a cruise missile was due to leave the Greenham Common air base...

The Prime Minister, prompted by a backbench MP, pointed out in the Commons yesterday that money given by Irish-Americans to the IRA might have resulted in the death of an American citizen...

She said the Government condemned as strongly as had going to Noraid, the Irish Northern Aid Committee...

Mrs Thatcher said that money for Noraid was given to those who rejected democracy and pursued the ends of violence, death and destruction of innocent people...

Mr Michael Colvin, Conservative MP for Romey and Waterside, had asked her to endorse a similar statement by Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland...

Mr John Jume, of the Social Democratic and Labour Party, asked the Prime Minister to "dampen the hysteria" about Irish-American support for violence...

Parliament page 4

Frank Johnson in the Commons Determined mood by the Welsh

The chief Opposition spokesman on Wales yesterday produced a late, but surely unbeatable entreat for less worrying accusation by a politician in 1983...

Presumably the chief Opposition spokesman on Wales did not intend his remarks to excite so little concern...

It was assumed that we were to be met with a Welsh citizen concerned if we are to have black and white days then most people would not complain if they are confined to local government in Wales...

The present incumbent's difficulty in this respect is added to by the fact that, like most Welsh males, his name is Mr Jones...

An Opposition spokesman on Wales named Mr Jones starts out with an enormous disadvantage when trying to make his way in the world...

There was no doubt yesterday that this Mr Jones thought he was being suitably inflammatory and demagogic...

But Wales was in a determined mood yesterday. Welsh members had the order paper a question asking if the Secretary of State would publish the number of hospital patients and special units expressed as the number of available staff beds...

In a written reply, Mr Wyn Roberts, of the Welsh Office, struck a blow for us in the name of the Secretary of State...

Diagram act of injustice...

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

First novels of year

The Literary Editor's selection of first novels of the year: Alpha, by Abdul Soufi (Cape, £7.50)...

Roads

London and South-east: A249: Auto signals on Maidstone/Sittingbourne road...

Wales and West: M4: Lane closures between junction 32 and junction 34...

North: A61: Resurfacing work along Barseley Road, near Wakefield...

South: A68: All southbound and northbound traffic over 30cwt diverted north of Dalkeith...

Information supplied by AA.

The pound

Table with columns for Bank, Buy, Sell, and various international exchange rates.

Rates for major international bank notes only, as supplied by Barclay Bank International Ltd...

The papers

The Washington Post says that it is worth "springing" Yasir Arafat, even this second time in an attempt to end what it calls the "cruel end game" of Lebanon...

Commenting on the Japanese elections the English language daily Japan Times says: "If the Tanaka issue, voters as a whole made it clear that they do not approve of a party that is dominated by a convicted ex-Prime Minister..."

The Liberal Democrat Party failed to secure not only a working majority of 270 but also a simple majority of 236 in the 511-seat House of Representatives...

Parliament today Commons (2.30): Housing and Building Control Bill, remaining stages...

Lords (11): Coal Industry Bill, Repatriation of Prisoners Bill, and Animal Health and Welfare Bill, second readings...

Law courts

The Michaelmas sittings at the Royal Courts of Justice end today.

Weather

A complex depression over Northern Ireland will move northwards.

Gain to midnight London, SE, central S England, East Anglia, E, W Midlands, Glasgow, Argyll, Northern Ireland, cloudy, showers or longer periods of rain...

Channel Islands, SW England, S, N Wales, showers or longer periods of rain, becoming brighter and mainly dry later...

Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, Northern Ireland, cloudy, showers or longer periods of rain, becoming brighter and drier later...

Mozyrsk, St Petersburg, heavy at times, hill fog, wind NE strong locally, becoming NW moderate or fresh...

Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Continuing unsettled with showers or longer periods of rain, but also sunny intervals; temperatures high or a little above normal.

Sun rises: 8.04am Sun sets: 3.53pm Moon rises: 5.15pm Moon sets: 9.38am Last quarter: December 28.

Lighting-up time London 4.25 pm to 7.24 am Belfast 4.25 pm to 7.44 am Edinburgh 4.09 pm to 8.12 am Manchester 4.31 pm to 8.01 am Perth 4.52 pm to 7.49 am

Yesterday

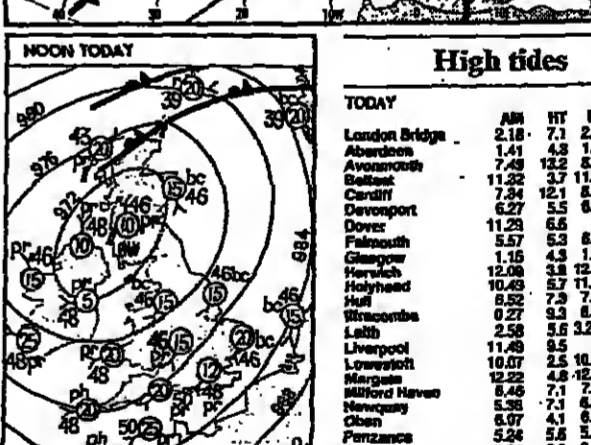
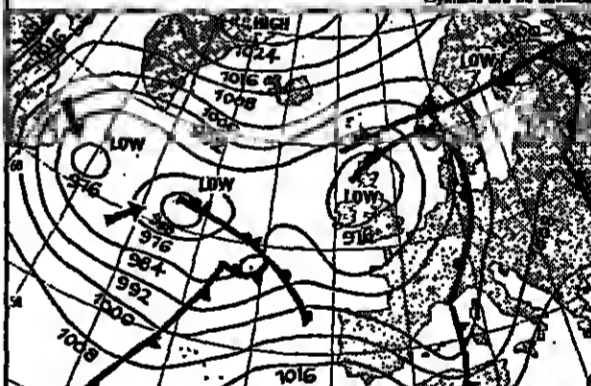
Table showing weather conditions for various locations yesterday, including temperature, wind, and cloud cover.

Highest and lowest Yesterday: Highest day temp: Torquay, 12.8C (55F); lowest day temp: Lough, 1.2C (34F)...

London Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 8 pm, 11C (52F); min 6 pm to 8 am, 8C (46F)...

TIMES NEWSPAPERS LIMITED, 1, Whitehall Court, London, WC1A 9EG.

Weather



High tides table with columns for location, tide time, and height.

Around Britain table with columns for location, sun, rain, and other weather indicators.

Abroad table with columns for location, sun, rain, and other weather indicators.

Highest and lowest table with columns for location, highest, and lowest temperatures.

London table with columns for location, sun, rain, and other weather indicators.

Abroad table with columns for location, sun, rain, and other weather indicators.

Abroad table with columns for location, sun, rain, and other weather indicators.

Abroad table with columns for location, sun, rain, and other weather indicators.

Abroad table with columns for location, sun, rain, and other weather indicators.

Timers Monday figures are listed available.

Today's events

Royal engagements Princess Anne, President of the Save the Children Fund, attends the Annual Carol Concert at the Royal Albert Hall, 6.55pm...

Carol Services Cathedral School Carol Services, Lincoln Minster, Lincoln, 2.30pm. Carols by candlelight by the City of Bath Bach Choir Pump Room, Bath, 7.30pm...

Christmas exhibition of paintings, drawings, prints and ceramics, Festival Gallery, Pierpoint Place, Bath, Tues to Sat 11-5, closed Sun and Mon.

Concert of Christmas music by the West Riding Singers, Holy Trinity Parish Church, Coltrick, Leeds, 7.45pm. Carols concert by Cynthia Glover, Leeds, 7.45pm.

Concert of Christmas music by the West Riding Singers, Holy Trinity Parish Church, Coltrick, Leeds, 7.45pm.

Concert of Christmas music by the West Riding Singers, Holy Trinity Parish Church, Coltrick, Leeds, 7.45pm.

Concert of Christmas music by the West Riding Singers, Holy Trinity Parish Church, Coltrick, Leeds, 7.45pm.

Concert of Christmas music by the West Riding Singers, Holy Trinity Parish Church, Coltrick, Leeds, 7.45pm.

Concert of Christmas music by the West Riding Singers, Holy Trinity Parish Church, Coltrick, Leeds, 7.45pm.

Concert of Christmas music by the West Riding Singers, Holy Trinity Parish Church, Coltrick, Leeds, 7.45pm.

Concert of Christmas music by the West Riding Singers, Holy Trinity Parish Church, Coltrick, Leeds, 7.45pm.

Concert of Christmas music by the West Riding Singers, Holy Trinity Parish Church, Coltrick, Leeds, 7.45pm.

Concert of Christmas music by the West Riding Singers, Holy Trinity Parish Church, Coltrick, Leeds, 7.45pm.

Concert of Christmas music by the West Riding Singers, Holy Trinity Parish Church, Coltrick, Leeds, 7.45pm.

Concert of Christmas music by the West Riding Singers, Holy Trinity Parish Church, Coltrick, Leeds, 7.45pm.

Christmas exhibition of paintings, drawings, prints and ceramics, Festival Gallery, Pierpoint Place, Bath, Tues to Sat 11-5, closed Sun and Mon.

Carol Services Cathedral School Carol Services, Lincoln Minster, Lincoln, 2.30pm. Carols by candlelight by the City of Bath Bach Choir Pump Room, Bath, 7.30pm...

Concert of Christmas music by the West Riding Singers, Holy Trinity Parish Church, Coltrick, Leeds, 7.45pm.

Concert of Christmas music by the West Riding Singers, Holy Trinity Parish Church, Coltrick, Leeds, 7.45pm.

Concert of Christmas music by the West Riding Singers, Holy Trinity Parish Church, Coltrick, Leeds, 7.45pm.

Concert of Christmas music by the West Riding Singers, Holy Trinity Parish Church, Coltrick, Leeds, 7.45pm.

Concert of Christmas music by the West Riding Singers, Holy Trinity Parish Church, Coltrick, Leeds, 7.45pm.

Concert of Christmas music by the West Riding Singers, Holy Trinity Parish Church, Coltrick, Leeds, 7.45pm.

Concert of Christmas music by the West Riding Singers, Holy Trinity Parish Church, Coltrick, Leeds, 7.45pm.

Concert of Christmas music by the West Riding Singers, Holy Trinity Parish Church, Coltrick, Leeds, 7.45pm.

Concert of Christmas music by the West Riding Singers, Holy Trinity Parish Church, Coltrick, Leeds, 7.45pm.

Concert of Christmas music by the West Riding Singers, Holy Trinity Parish Church, Coltrick, Leeds, 7.45pm.

Concert of Christmas music by the West Riding Singers, Holy Trinity Parish Church, Coltrick, Leeds, 7.45pm.

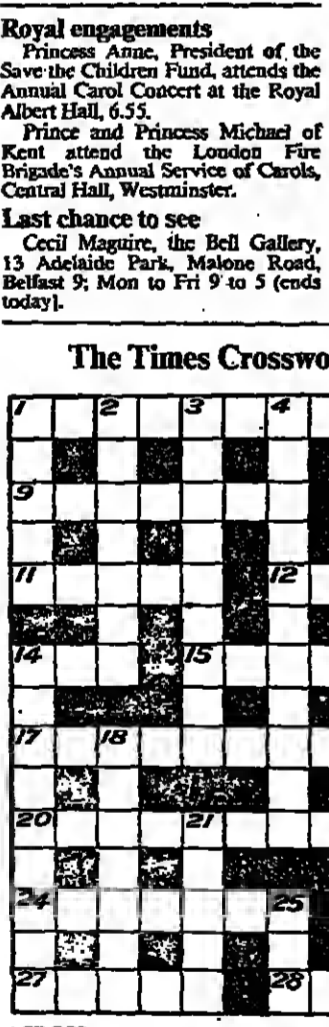
Concert of Christmas music by the West Riding Singers, Holy Trinity Parish Church, Coltrick, Leeds, 7.45pm.

Concert of Christmas music by the West Riding Singers, Holy Trinity Parish Church, Coltrick, Leeds, 7.45pm.

Concert of Christmas music by the West Riding Singers, Holy Trinity Parish Church, Coltrick, Leeds, 7.45pm.

Concert of Christmas music by the West Riding Singers, Holy Trinity Parish Church, Coltrick, Leeds, 7.45pm.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,315



- ACROSS 1 They take off and stop raids somehow (9). 6 Such amassed stock auditor takes for large company (5). 9 Sudden collapse of French empire (7). 11 Onset of egotism possibly limits this (7). 12 Pervasive atmosphere of a foreign capital (5). 14 For a skillful player, I act doubly badly with 27 (9). 15 Notable split? (11). 17 Sea-going crew seen on TV (7,4). 19 Strange as what follows and precedes this (3). 20 Cheese very successful in the long run (5). 22 Old man of Paris (5). 24 Russian beauty put in the shade (7). 26 Science producing sort of bomb in any case (7). 27 Lord whose opponents shall never meet (5). 28 It can give an edge to the news broadcast (9).

- DOWN 5 Understand a couple of points one repeated (3). 6 There's one in Panama, say, and one in Caribbean (5). 7 Muses, as one starts to get silly (7). 8 Was charitable about many 1 rules (9). 13 Wimbledon, for example, is nothing special (11). 14 Collected relations of French doctor (9). 16 Raza across the Channel James wrote about (9). 18 Apart from a partner of 27, in lower position (7). 19 Gold coin, perhaps, and ring, in South American banks (7). 21 She's repeatedly in bed - it helped, I think (5). 23 Honour always included, perhaps (5). 25 Half of Joyce's fruit (3).

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 10